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IN PARKER, JASON STATHAM PLAYS A CROOK WITH A STRICT MORAL CODE — LIKE BEING FAITHFUL TO HIS GF PAGE 20

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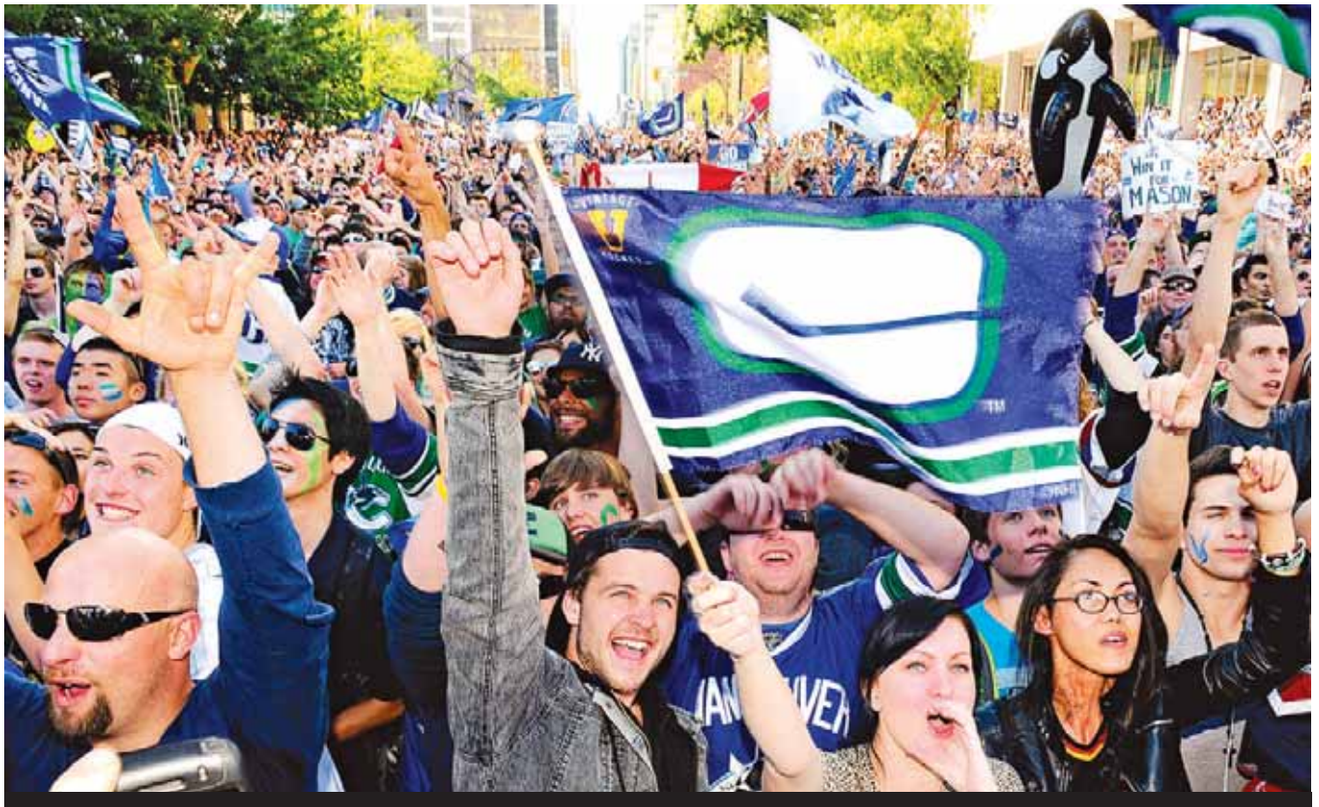

DROP THE PUCK, ALREADY!

Fans celebrate the Vancouver Canucks' 2011 playoff run in this file photo. With the lockout in the rearview mirror, the excitement of the NHL returns to Vancouver Saturday when the Canucks open the 2013 season at home against the Anaheim Ducks. Local fans are jazzed, and pubs and businesses are primed to capitalize, page 3. Check out our NHL season preview, starting on page 28.

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Artists get a space to call home

Creative potential abounds in a derelict, city-owned building on Industrial Way PAGE 6

Jurors view dead teen's jail cell

Evidence about what guards could see of Ashley Smith's cell interior is expected to play a role at the Ontario inquest into her death PAGE 8

Serve waffles the savoury, soul-food way

Top 'em with Southern-style chicken and gravy for a deliciously different brunch dish PAGE 25

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Thrilled

For business owners, puck drop can't come soon enough

Hockey fans and hockey pool addicts weren't the only ones who are thrilled that the Canucks will finally hit the ice Saturday against the Anaheim Ducks.

Business owners like Chris Hannan of Charles Bar in Gastown are tickled pink that they can count on the NHL to put bums in seats and money in their pockets in 2013.

Hannan said that he was able to keep his bar busy since October thanks to the NFL and soccer, and he even thinks that the different sports offerings may have attracted some new customers.

"We were expecting it to be worse than it was," said Hannan of the lockout.

"It allowed us to focus on other areas and other directions."

However, Aftav Hadi, owner of Granville Sports Corner, has found the lockout more problematic.

While memorabilia from other sports, especially the NFL, helped keep him afloat, sales slowed as the lockout dragged on.

However, with the first game of the season merely a day away, sales have been drastically improving.

Now, he has bigger issues on his mind.

Namely, how are his Canucks going to fare this year?

"I have very high hopes! The Canucks, basically are a sprinter, they're good in a short season," he said. "So their chances are very good, very bright."

LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

Canucks fans celebrate during the 2011 playoff run. Hockey fans are pumped up and ready to go for the first Canucks home game Saturday against the Anaheim Ducks. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Hockey is back and so are the fans

An obsession. 'This is Canada. We live and breathe hockey,' says one of Vancouver's Green Men

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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What do the Green Men, the Crazy Canuck, the Canuck Piper and the Towel Power Man have in common? Boycott isn't in their vocabulary.

These mega-fans are pumped up and ready to go for the first Canucks home game Saturday against the Anaheim Ducks.

Andrew "The Crazy Canuck" Nicholson and Kyle "The Canuck Piper" Banta said though they don't have the money to watch both weekend games, they'll be wearing their Canucks garb loud and proud Sunday for the season's second game versus the Edmonton Oilers during pre-game festivities on the plaza outside Rogers Arena.

Banta will play his pipe, while Nicholson with his baby-blue, spiky hair, and blue-painted face will pump up the crowd as they make their way into the arena.

Nicholson, a well-known character for fans at Canucks home games, said he missed putting smiles on people's faces especially kids during the lengthy NHL lockout.

"I'm a little upset about the lockout, but at the same time the Canucks need their fans," he said.

Ryan Sullivan a.k.a. Sully, one half of Vancouver's Green Men, said fans can expect new crazy antics from the duo of distraction.

"We're targeting a few people," he said. "The last six months was caused by a few people and they're going to be brought to the forefront for sure."

A lot of people approached the spandex-wearing duo about boycotting the games through their Facebook page and Twitter account, he added, but it never crossed their minds.

"This is Canada. We live and breathe hockey," Sullivan said.

"I understand why some people are thinking of doing that because it seems that for the past six months the game turned its back on them, but I'm never ever going to turn my back on the game."

Dave Preece's towel power suit won't make an appearance until at least closer to the playoffs, but Sunday's game will be a family affair.

It will be the first Canucks game of Preece's four-month-old daughter Hayden, who will be wearing her big sister Koal's pink Canucks jersey that is autographed by Trevor Linden and other Canucks players from the 1994 team.

"We got to do the same thing with my older daughter, took her to her first game when she was two months old," Preece said. "We had to wait a little bit longer this time, but it's definitely worth the wait."

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Shootings. Bystanders could be hurt: Police

RCMP Insp. Bryon Massie, left, speaks with an investigator outside a banquet hall where four men were shot in Richmond, late Wednesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The latest in a series of shootings in Metro Vancouver has police concerned about the potential for innocent bystanders getting hurt in the crossfire of what could be a return to gang-related violence in the region.

RCMP Sgt. Peter Thiessen said a man who is known to police was arrested five minutes after four people were shot in a targeted hit Wednesday night at a packed banquet hall in Richmond, B.C.

"We have a male in custody but we have not determined what his role was in this shooting," he said Thursday.

Thiessen said the suspect was taken into custody a short distance from the scene, where 150 people were gathered.

"Police recognize these types of incidents are very concerning to the public. The potential for innocent people to be hurt is high."

Since Sunday, nine people have died and five others have been injured in several violent incidents in Metro Vancouver, Hope and Vanderhoof.

Police have said at least five of the incidents were either gang or crime related.

Mounties said two men were critically injured in the banquet-hall shooting while two others suffered less serious gunshot wounds and that all the victims are in stable condition.

Police described a chaotic scene at the hall as an estimated 100 witnesses were transported on a transit bus for further questioning at the local detachment.

Mark Gordienko, spokesman for the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Canada, said some union members and others were involved in renting the hall for a private party when shots rang out.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report. B.C. spends little on wellness, prevention

B.C.'s auditor general says the province spends less than five per cent of its annual $15.5 billion health-care budget on population wellness and disease prevention despite a healthy-living theme touted by the provincial government.

John Doyle's report highlights how little was spent on population health and wellness programs even though the well-being of British Columbians has been a major focus in every government throne speech since 2008.

Doyle's report says Health Ministry expenditures for promoting health and disease prevention was $536 million during the 2011-12 fiscal year.

His report says B.C. spends almost 40 per cent of its total budget on health care, with acute care costs reaching $7.4 billion annually.

The report isn't a traditional audit, but was designed to help the public and legislators understand where health-care dollars are being spent.

Doyle's ongoing status as auditor general has been the focus of much political debate lately after an all-party government committee decided not to renew his six-year contract, but Premier Christy Clark stepped in and promised to amend legislation that could extend Doyle's term.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Revelstoke

Man dies in house fire, daughter escapes out window

A 52-year-old man has died in a house fire in Revelstoke but his 25-year-old daughter managed to escape the flames.

The fire broke out Thursday morning and the woman got out of the house through a window.

RCMP say the cause of the fire is under investigation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

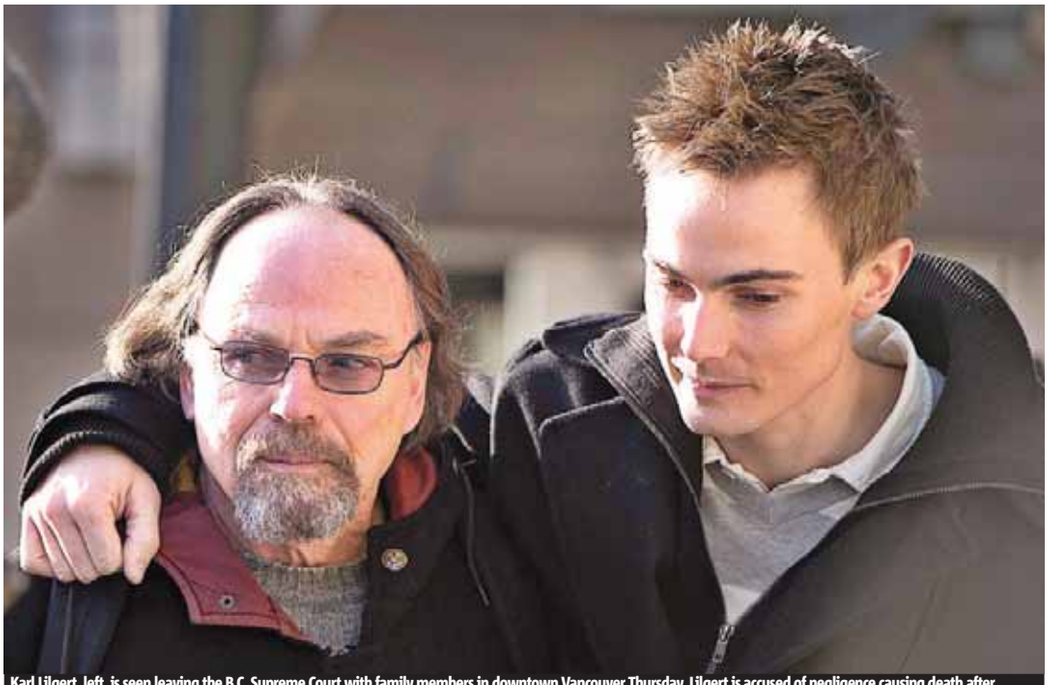
Parks Canada

Hot water detected again at quake-damaged B.C. hot springs

Scientists have now observed hot water seeps at some B.C. hot springs damaged by an earthquake last fall.

Water flow and thermal activity at four naturally-sourced pools in Gwaii Haanas National Park stopped in October following a 7.7 magnitude earthquake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Karl Lilgert, left, is seen leaving the B.C. Supreme Court with family members in downtown Vancouver Thursday. Lilgert is accused of negligence causing death after two passengers died when the Queen of the North ferry sank. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trial begins in fatal ferry crash

2006. Nearly seven years after Queen of the North sank, trial starts

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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A former BC Ferries crewmember made no attempt to steer the Queen of the North away from Gil Island before it ran aground, sank and claimed two lives nearly seven years ago, a Crown lawyer said Thursday.

Karl Lilgert is on trial for two counts of criminal negligence causing the deaths of two passengers, Gerald Foisy and Shirley Rosette, whose bodies were never found. He pleaded not guilty to the charges.

In his opening statement, Prosecutor Robert Wright told a 14-member jury Thursday that Lilgert missed a crucial left turn and travelled on the wrong course for about 22 minutes before striking Gil Island in March 2006.

"The collision unfortunately was catastrophic," Wright said, adding Lilgert — the senior officer in charge, while the second officer was on a break — had ample time to change course, but failed to take any action to avoid the island.

He also told the jury that Karen Bricker, a fellow crew member, is scheduled to take the witness stand. Bricker is expected to testify that she was alone with Lilgert on the bridge of the ferry the night of the crash.

Bricker had had an affair with Lilgert and it was their first shift alone since they had recently ended their relationship.

Defence lawyer Glen Orris argues that the pair's relationship had nothing to do with the sinking.

Orris told the jury that is not a question of who was responsible, but what caused it.

He blamed the collision on ineffective navigational equipment, company policies, poor weather, and a lack of help on the bridge.

The trial is expected to last up to six months, hearing from approximately 100 witnesses, including passengers, crew members, experts, and the victims' families.

The team that renovated, operated and reinvigorated the Waldorf Hotel will celebrate its last night Saturday after the property was sold to developers. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Waldorf team's swan song

A final Saturday of music and tiki-lounge beverages awaits the operators of the Waldorf Hotel, the team that poured $1.6 million into the rundown space and reinvigorated its spirit over the last two years.

The operators are calling it quits after their landlord sold the building to developer Solterra, as they can't operate their business on the week-to-week lease they've been offered. They confirmed Thursday they'd be out after the weekend, "barring a miracle."

Thousands have supported the operators' highly publicized battle to secure a longer lease, with dozens rallying at city hall this week and hundreds attending a love-in held on the weekend.

Both the operators and their many supporters hoped they could work out a deal, but last-minute negotiation attempts fell through.

Perhaps this is no surprise considering the negative publicity the operators stirred up for the purchaser and the landlord, who told the Georgia Straight he forgave them more than $300,000 in rent before they negotiated a now-expired four-month lease in September.

While the current and future owners have no plans to tear down the building at this point, city hall issued a 120-day protection order on the hotel to determine whether it qualifies as a heritage asset.

Regardless, the property's mixed commercial zoning does not allow for residential use such as condos, which the operators have decried.

The city is helping the operators find a new space so they can continue their work.

The current owner plans to keep the bar open after the tenants vacate, but supporters have said the artistic programming will be difficult if not impossible to replicate.

So head to the Waldorf Saturday for your last chance to say goodbye to the hotel as you know it. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

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Art to bring new life to industrial space

New and established talent. Organizer says goal is to make a hub of creativity, collaboration

LIAM BRITTEN
vancouver@metronews.ca

A 21,000-square-foot derelict industrial property owned by the City of Vancouver will soon find new life as a communal, multi-disciplinary artists' space.

The city awarded a lease to the building on Industrial Way to the non-profit Arts Factory Society to re-purpose the space into approximately 40 artists' studios and a large performing arts space.

Arts Factory principal Elia Kirby said that the new space will do more for artists than saving them money. He said that he wants the space to become an arts "hub" that will give artists from various disciplines chances to collaborate, compare notes and maybe find new opportunities.

"We would like artists who are successful to be here as well as artists who are emerging," he said. "We want the experience and the excitement of the established and successful artists to be an inspiration to the emerging artists."

The Arts Factory plans to buy arts materials in bulk, and sell it to the artists at a reduced price. The space will also have things like a ventilated spray-painting room, office space and even a boardroom.

Kirby said the cost of such amenities are prohibitive for many artists, who are being squeezed out by the price of doing business in Vancouver.

"I'm optimistic that this will change the way the city views making space available to artists," Kirby said.

Elia Kirby in a city-owned warehouse on Industrial Way in Vancouver, Thursday. The building will be converted into an art space. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

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Passenger demand

Transport board defends service cuts to Greyhound

The agency that regulates inter-city bus service in B.C. is defending a decision to approve major cuts in Greyhound service in the province.

The Passenger Transportation Board is allowing the company to reduce service by about 25 per cent, which has triggered concerns in smaller B.C. communities.

Board chair Don Zurowski says Greyhound successfully proved it's losing millions of dollars in B.C. because the passenger demand is not there.

Clearwater Mayor John Harwood calls the cuts disastrous, and says rural communities were never consulted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trees for jobs

Government OK's increase in timber quota

The provincial government is increasing the allowable timber cut on the B.C. Coast and boosting the export fee on some raw logs in an effort to put more people back to work.

Forests Minister Steve Thomson announced at the Truck Loggers convention this morning that his government is increasing the availability of coastal timber by 500,000 cubic metres.

In order to dampen the export of raw logs, Thomson says the average export fee would go up by 20 per cent. The government is chopping the fee for low-and mid-grade logs on the mid-coast to increase logging in areas where less valuable timber is growing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

De Jong. Minister vows balanced budget with no pre-election goodies for B.C.

Finance Minister Mike de Jong says he will table a balanced budget next month, but B.C. voters shouldn't expect the kind of pre-election goodies to which they may have grown accustomed.

De Jong announced Thursday that the B.C. Economic Forecast Council, which advises the provincial government, revised its economic outlook for the province.

The adjustment is a "very, very modest" downgrade, de Jong said, and the growth predictions are reassuring.

Mike de Jong THE CANADIAN PRESS

But the finance minister said lingering uncertainty internationally means his Feb. 19 budget will be conservative.

"There ain't going to be a plethora of spending announcements and all the goodies that politicians like to go out with at election time," de Jong told about 300 members of the Vancouver Board of Trade during a political panel.

Balancing the budget "doesn't leave us a lot of room for extravagant spending promises and proposals. That's the choice that we have made because we believe that that discipline translates into a stronger British Columbia, a stronger economy and an ability to better service social programs like health care and education."

The B.C. economy is expected to grow by 2.1 per cent this year, down from the 2.2 per cent the forecast council predicted two months ago. Next year, B.C. should see growth of 2.5 per cent, down from 2.6.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. juices up electric-car infrastructure

Charging stations. The addition of 13 chargers is meant to encourage more drivers to go green

Electric-vehicle owners in B.C. will soon be able to charge their cars in more communities and in less time.

The provincial government announced on Thursday that they will be installing 13 DC electric-car chargers. The chargers can fill an electric car's battery to 80 per cent full in 20-30 minutes. Most chargers require four to eight hours to do this. The first of these chargers will be installed at Science World.

Environment Minister Terry Lake said the chargers will improve electric-vehicle usability and also combat "range anxiety" — a fear motorists have of electric vehicles' inability to travel long distances.

He said that range anxiety is a major barrier to consumers purchasing electric vehicles.

"If you're travelling between cities and you need to recharge your battery, it's getting closer and closer to being just like filling up with gasoline."

The purchase and installation of the 13 DC chargers will cost $1.3 million, the minister said, part of a $14.3-million investment by the province into electric vehicles and infrastructure to support them.

These new charging stations also complete B.C.'s portion of the West Coast Green Highway, an effort involving B.C. and the governments of Washington, Oregon and California to make Highway 99 in Canada and the I-5 in the U.S. fully traversable by electric vehicles.

"So now, electric vehicle owners will be able to drive from Baja California all the way to Whistler knowing they can plug in their vehicles along the way," Lake said.

LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

Environment Minister Terry Lake demonstrates an electric-vehicle charging station outside Science World on Thursday morning. LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

New technologies

Feds give Okanagan fruit growers $200K

The federal and provincial governments are pumping more than $200,000 into six Okanagan-area projects supporting B.C. tree fruit growers.

Cawston Cold Storage is receiving more than half of the cash to develop new storage technologies to extend the province's organic apple marketing season.

Other projects include $35,000 to Coral Beach Farms in Lake Country for a software program to automate the sorting of stemless cherries.

The technology is the first of its kind in B.C. and the president of Coral Beach Farms says it will help to reduce labour costs and make cherry producers more competitive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKFR

Rookie Victoria MP

Rankin gets NDP critic role

Rookie Victoria NDP Member of Parliament Murray Rankin has been promoted to the federal Opposition shadow cabinet, just weeks after winning his seat in a byelection.

Rankin has been named the critic responsible for National Revenue.

He was elected last November, succeeding New Democrat MP and deputy speaker Denise Savoie, when she stepped down for health reasons.

Rankin, who has extensive experience in environmental, aboriginal and administrative law, says he's looking forward to holding the federal Conservatives accountable on issues such as taxation and balancing the books.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murray River. Mining company to hand over failed applicants' resumes

Two unions arguing Canadians should have been hired for a northern B.C. mining project instead of workers from China will get their wish to review the resumes of hundreds of job applicants who were turned down.

The mining company at the centre of the controversy has reluctantly agreed to turn over the documents, one day after a federal judge ordered Ottawa to try and retrieve them.

HD Mining had steadfastly refused to provide about 300 Canadian resumes since last month, but announced Thursday it will reverse course in the case involving the proposed Murray River coal project near Tumbler Ridge, B.C.

"The issue for us has never really been the resumes themselves," company lawyer Alex Stojicevic said in an interview. "By putting these forward, we're hoping to put the issue to bed."

The dispute arose during legal proceedings spearheaded by two unions challenging HD Mining's decision to hire 201 temporary foreign workers.

The unions were seeking disclosure of the plethora of documents associated with the application to Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, which granted the firm permits to bring the workers from China.

The unions intend to use the documents at a judicial review set for April.

While about 600 pages of material were initially released by HD Mining, the company had refused three times to give up other documents.

It argued the move would be an invasion of privacy and that the federal department had no legal authority to force it to give up the material.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Inquest jurors see the cell where Ashley Smith died

What could guards see? Food slot and viewing window may be main focus of hearing into troubled teen's last hours

Dr. John Carlisle, presiding coroner at the Ashley Smith inquest, arrives at the institution where the troubled teen died. COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inquest jurors paced the beige-painted segregation cell Thursday where a troubled teen choked to death five years ago as security guards stood watching her.

The tour of the Grand Valley Institution in Kitchener, Ont., one of five federal prisons for women in Canada, aimed to offer the jury better insight into the place where Ashley Smith, 19, spent the last weeks of her life.

"This was Ashley's cell," declared assistant warden Tony Simoes.

A key difference between how the cell was when Smith died in it and how it is now are the two large windows in the heavy grey door that would have given guards a better view of the interior.

The old-style doors, still on the three adjacent cells, have only a small viewing window at about eye level and a "cuff port" or food slot closer to knee level.

Evidence about what guards could see of the cell interior is expected to play a role given that Smith frequently covered the interior surveillance camera and viewing window with toilet paper.

Bits of toilet paper are still visible on some of the cameras.

Dr. John Carlisle, presiding coroner, urged jurors to examine what would be visible if guards could only look through the food slot — about the size of a large mail slot.

"Just make observations," Carlisle advised the jurors.

Smith choked herself to death in her cell in October 2007, while guards, ordered not to intervene, looked on.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terror-case Canadian gets 14-year jail term

A Canadian businessman was sentenced to 14 years in prison on Thursday for providing material support to overseas terrorism.

It was alleged Tahawwur Rana supported a Pakistani group whose 2008 attacks on Mumbai, India, left more than 160 people dead.

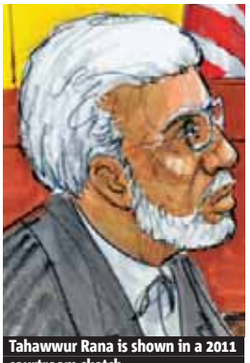
The judge sentenced Rana in a Chicago court to the prison term followed by five years of supervised release.

Rana, a 52-year-old Pakistani-born Canadian, faced a maximum 30 years in prison.

Jurors in 2011 convicted him of providing support for the Pakistani group Lashkar-e-Taiba, and for supporting a never-carried-out plot to attack a Danish newspaper that printed cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad in 2005.

The cartoons angered many Muslims because pictures of the prophet are prohibited in Islam.

But jurors cleared Rana of the third and most serious charge of involvement in the three-day rampage in Mumbai, India's largest city, which has often been called India's 9-11.



Tahawwur Rana is shown in a 2011 courtroom sketch. TOM GIANNI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The government's star witness at Rana's trial was admitted terrorist David Coleman Headley, who had pleaded guilty to laying the groundwork for the Mumbai attacks.

The American-Pakistani testified against his school friend Rana to avoid the death penalty and extradition.

He is scheduled to be sentenced in Chicago next week.

Headley spent five days on the witness stand — taking up more than half the trial — detailing how he allegedly worked for both the Pakistani intelligence agency known as the ISI and Lashkar.

Prosecutors also presented Rana's videotaped arrest statement to the FBI, during which he said he knew Headley had trained with Lashkar. They also played a September 2009 recorded phone conversation between the men.

Rana — who owned an immigration consulting firm in Toronto and a home in Ottawa — was accused of allowing Headley to open a branch of his Chicago-based immigration law business in Mumbai as a cover story and travel as a representative of the company in Denmark.

In court, a travel agent showed how Rana booked travel for Headley.

Rana's trial in 2011 came just weeks after navy SEALs found Osama bin Laden hiding in Pakistan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fracking fuss. Yoko Ono takes son Sean Lennon on a protest over drilling

Yoko Ono, Sean Lennon and actress Susan Sarandon spoke out against fracking — a drilling technique — during a tour of natural-gas drilling sites in northeastern Pennsylvania on Thursday.

The celebrities said the technique is a danger to air, water and human health.

Ono accused the gas industry of disregarding residents' welfare. "They care about making money," she said.

The celebs headed to rural Susquehanna County to see gas wells, compressor stations and other evidence of the Marcellus Shale drilling boom.

They also visited with residents who say they have been negatively impacted by drilling.

Fracking involves the high-pressure injection of millions of gallons of water, along with sand and chemical additives, deep underground to break apart shale rock and free the gas trapped inside it.

The industry and many federal and state officials say fracking is safe when it's done properly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mother and son: Yoko Ono and Sean Lennon chat as they head to drilling sites in Pennsylvania on Thursday. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

School staffer's claim

Boy, 13, accused of sex attack

A 13-year-old boy is facing charges after Peterborough, Ont., police allege a female staff member at an area school was choked and sexually assaulted.

Police say the woman told them she was alone in a classroom Wednesday with the boy when she was attacked.

He was charged with sexual assault and overcoming resistance to commit an indictable offence. He cannot be identified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jail sentence

Top court to hear condom case?

A Nova Scotia man convicted of sexual assault for poking holes in his girlfriend's condoms to get her pregnant is taking his appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Craig Jaret Hutchinson of Shelburne County received an 18-month prison sentence in December 2011, and lost his appeal with the provincial appeal court earlier this month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six-week protest

Queen rejects plea over Spence

Queen Elizabeth has rejected an appeal to intervene in chief Theresa Spence's liquids-only protest, but says she is taking note of concerns for the chief's health.

Spence is camped out on Victoria Island, in the Ottawa River, and says she will protest until the Governor General and the prime minister meet with all chiefs on the plight of First Nations people.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Student loans

Lawsuits planned over missing info

The federal government is being sued over the loss of a hard drive containing personal information about more than half-a-million people who took out student loans.

Merchant Law Group is filing class-action lawsuits in Calgary and Winnipeg, and says it plans to file more in other parts of the country.

Ottawa says the device contained data on 583,000 Canada Student Loans Program borrowers from 2000 to 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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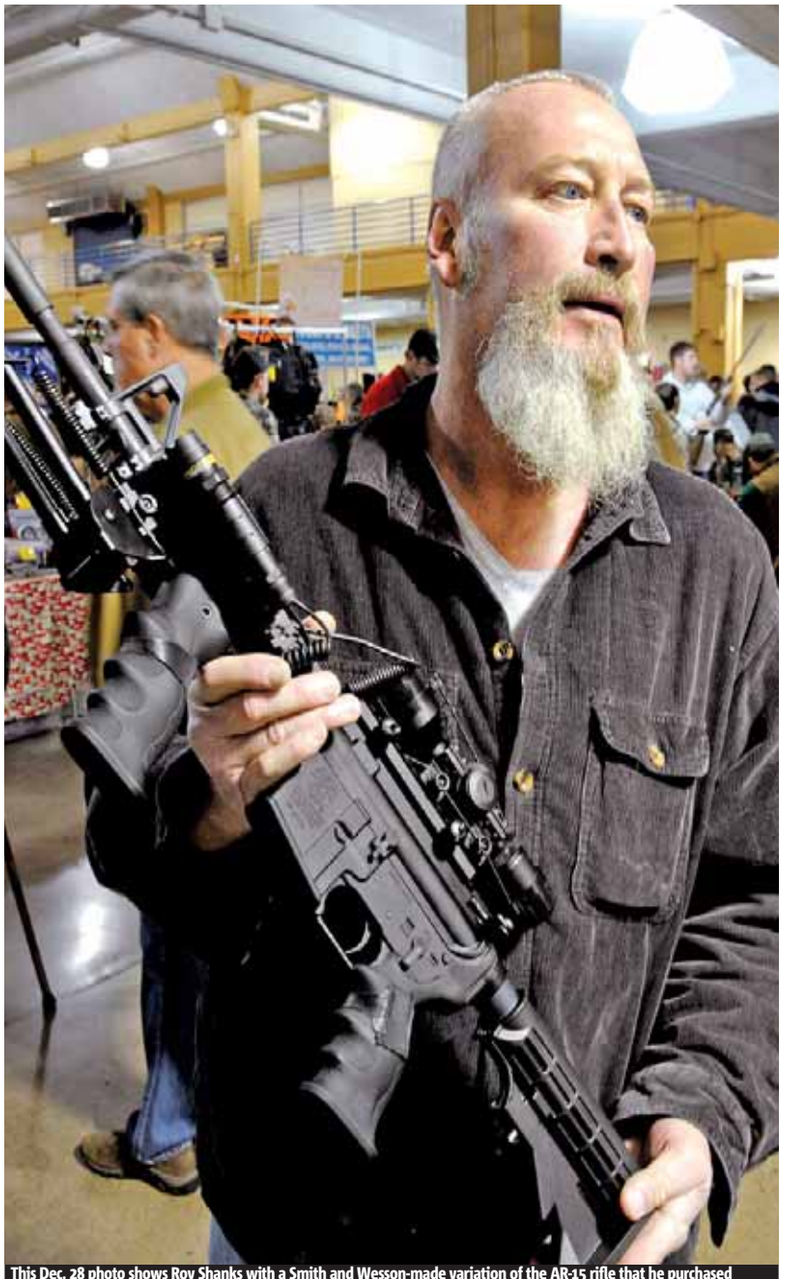

This Dec. 28 photo shows Roy Shanks with a Smith and Wesson-made variation of the AR-15 rifle that he purchased at the RK Gun Show in the Smokies in Knoxville, Tenn. Rural lawmen and lawmakers are against U.S. President Barack Obama's gun-control plans, which would include banning new assault weapons and large-capacity magazines.
MICHAEL PATRICK, KNOXVILLE NEWS SENTINEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rural U.S. pushes back against gun proposal

U.S. President Barack Obama's proposed ban on new assault weapons and large-capacity gun magazines struck a nerve among rural lawmen and lawmakers, many of whom vowed to ignore any restrictions.

"A lot of sheriffs are now standing up and saying, 'Follow the Constitution,'" said Josephine County Sheriff Gil Gilbertson, whose territory covers the timbered mountains of Oregon.

But their actual powers to defy federal law are limited. And much of the impassioned rhetoric from the largely rural, Republican-leaning West and South amounts to political posturing until — and if — Congress acts on Obama's proposals to limit gun violence like last month's Connecticut school shooting.

Assault-rifle ban

"I will tell Mr. Obama and everybody else who wants to impose gun control in America that, whether you like it or not, it is against the law."
Richard Mack, former Arizona sheriff

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat, said Wednesday it's unlikely an assault-weapons ban would actually pass the House of Representatives. Absent action by Congress, all that remains are 23 executive orders Obama announced that apply only to the federal government, not local or state law enforcement.

Gun advocates have seen Obama as an enemy despite his expression of support for the interpretation of the Second Amendment as a personal right to have guns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hostages freed, but death toll at Algerian gas plant unclear

Foreign captives. Kidnapping was one of the largest ever attempted by a militant group in North Africa

Statoil CEO Helge Lund, left, and director of foreign operations Lars Christian Bacher leave a meeting in Stavanger, Norway. Algerian forces raided a remote gas plant on Thursday in an attempt to free dozens of foreign hostages at the BP/Statoil/Sonatrach-run facility. KENT SKIBSTAD, NTB SCANPIX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Algerian special forces launched a rescue operation Thursday at a natural-gas plant in the Sahara Desert and freed foreign hostages held by al-Qaida-linked militants, but estimates for the number of dead varied wildly from four to dozens.

Militants claiming revenge for France's intervention against rebels in Mali seized the BP, Statoil and Sonatrach-owned Ain Amenas natural-gas complex on Wednesday, taking dozens of foreign workers hostage.

Algerian state television said Thursday that four captives, two Britons and two Filipinos, had died. But the militants said at least 35 hostages had died in the state's rescue attempt. There was no way to independently verify the toll in the remote location, 1,300 kilometres from Algiers.

The reports of high casualties have deeply disturbed foreign governments, prompting a number to criticize Algeria's operation. Britain's Foreign Office attempted to prepare the British public by saying, "We should be under no illusion that there will be some bad and distressing news to follow from this terrorist attack."

Islamists from the Masked Brigade, a Mali-based al-Qaida offshoot, said Algerian helicopters opened fire as the militants tried to leave the vast complex with their hostages. They claimed that 35 hostages and 15 militants died and only seven hostages survived.

Algeria's official news service, meanwhile, claimed that 600 local workers were freed in the raid and half of the foreigners being held were rescued. Many of those locals were reportedly released on Wednesday, however, by the militants themselves. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Multinational terrorists

The Algerian government said it was forced to intervene due to the militants' stubbornness and their desire to escape with hostages.

- **Islamist militants.** Communications Minister Mohand Said Oubelaid said the "terrorists are multinational," coming from several different countries with the goal of "destabilizing Algeria, embroiling it in the Mali conflict and damaging its natural-gas infrastructure."

Special court

Gang-rape trial to be fast-tracked

An Indian magistrate on Thursday ordered the trial of five men accused in the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a moving bus to be shifted to a special fast-track court in New Delhi. The first hearing is to be held there on Monday.

Lawyers for the five have said police mistreated their clients, including beating them to force them to confess to the Dec. 16 crime. A sixth suspect in the attack claims to be a juvenile and his case is being handled separately.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aurora shooting. Families of victims have different takes on theatre reopening

The Colorado cinema where 12 people were killed and dozens injured in a shooting rampage nearly six months ago reopens Thursday with a remembrance ceremony and private screening for survivors — but for some Aurora victims, the pain is still too much, the idea too horrific.

Several families boycotted what they called a callous public-relations ploy by the theatre's owner, Cinemark. They claimed the Texas-based company — which has been publicly silent since the July 20 shooting — didn't ask them what should happen to the theatre.

Some victims said it's important to reclaim the theatre. Others called its reopening insensitive and refused an invitation to attend.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Genuine gesture?

"Nobody is going to stop us from living our lives the way that we lived our lives before."
Tom Sullivan, father of victim Alex Sullivan

Clearing up weather lingo

If these people had a better understanding of weather-prediction jargon, perhaps they would have taken public transit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ DPA/ROLAND

Easy, breezy jargon.
Because you shouldn't need a degree just to understand the forecast

Ever hit a mental whiteout pondering the difference between a winter-storm watch and winter-weather advisory?

The U.S. National Weather Service is looking at the idea that less is more when it comes to such jargon.

This winter, the federal forecasting agency is trying out simple, descriptive language to possibly replace its 14 watches, advisories and warnings for wintry weather — from ice storms to blizzards, wind chill to lake-effect snow.

"The purpose of this project is to use language that is self-evident, that everybody would immediately understand," said Eli Jacks, the forecaster leading the experiment.

The experiment began in December and runs through March 31 at 26 Weather Service offices covering Alaska, Oregon, the northern Great Plains, Michigan, New England, Appalachia and Oklahoma. A separate website for the project avoids confusing people who just want to look up the forecast.

The clear-and-simple approach could be carried over to heat waves, flooding, dangerous wind and other conditions, but that will depend on what the public has to say. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wa- wa- what're you saying?

"But then other people say, 'Well you know what, I've always been confused by 'watch' and 'warning' because they both start with 'wa.'

Forecaster Eli Jacks, about the reaction of supporters to his experiment that aims to make weather jargon less confusing.

San Francisco's new ban.
Nudists say they're being stripped of their rights

A federal judge is set to consider San Francisco's new law that bans public nudity.

Public-nudity activists are requesting that U.S. District Judge Edward Chen on Thursday block the law from going into effect on Feb. 1 while he considers their lawsuit seeking to invalidate the ordinance.

The activists argue that the ban violates their 1st Amendment freedom of speech because their nudity is a political statement.

They also argue the law violates equal-protection rights because it exempts children younger than five and public nudity at certain events such as an annual street fair, the city's Gay Pride Parade and its Bay-to-Breakers foot race, which is noted for the wacky costumes — or lack thereof — of participants.

Attorneys representing the city counter that the ban is a matter of public health, safety and the "general welfare" of all residents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A sheriff deputy rushes to cover a woman who stripped off her clothes in protest during a San Francisco Board of Supervisors meeting. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

British royalty

Princesses drive through red light

It was meant to be a Mini adventure; it nearly became a major embarrassment.

Two British royals on a mission to promote their country ran a red light near Berlin's iconic Brandenburg Gate.

With photographers and police in tow, driver Princess Eugenie and her older sister Princess Beatrice then took a swift right into the safety of the British Embassy compound.

At least the 22- and 24-year-old sisters didn't have to decide which side of the road to drive their Mini on. The entire 500-metre staged tour was along one-way streets.

Ignoring a red light can bring a fine of $264 US and a month's driving ban in Germany.

"Of course it's forbidden but so far we haven't had any reports," said Berlin police spokesman Carsten Mueller. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sub-size matters

Was the oven too cold for the bread to fully rise?

Subway is facing criticism after an Australian man posted a picture on the company's Facebook page of one of its sandwiches next to a tape measure.

The footlong subs are meant to be 12 inches, but the Australian's sandwich appears to be just 11 inches.

In a response, Subway said that the length of its sandwiches may vary slightly when its bread, which is baked at each Subway location, is not made to the chain's exact specifications. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Subway meal GETTY IMAGES

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Football star may be in on girlfriend hoax

Manti Te'o. Linebacker still spoke of his dead online love even after he supposedly learned she never existed

Manti Te'o claims the hoax was painful and humiliating. JAMES BROSHER, SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Not once but twice after he supposedly discovered his online girlfriend of three years never even existed, Notre Dame All-American linebacker Manti Te'o perpetuated the heart-breaking story about her death.

An Associated Press review of news coverage found that the Heisman Trophy runner-up talked about his doomed love in a web interview on Dec. 8 and again in a newspaper interview published Dec. 11. He and the university said Wednesday that he learned on Dec. 6 that it was all a hoax.

On Thursday, a day after Te'o's inspiring story was exposed as a lie, Te'o and Notre Dame faced questions about whether he really was duped, as he claimed, or whether he and the university were complicit and misled the public, perhaps to improve his chances of winning the Heisman.

Te'o and Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick said on Wednesday that the player was drawn into a virtual romance with one "Lennay Kekua" and was fooled into believing she died of leukemia in September. They said his only contact with her was via the Internet and telephone.

Te'o also lost his grandmother — for real — the same day his girlfriend supposedly died, and his role in leading Notre Dame to its best season in decades put him at the centre of college football's biggest feel-good story of the year.

Relying on info provided by Te'o's family, the South Bend Tribune reported in October that Te'o and Kekua first met in person in 2009 and that the two had also gotten together in Hawaii, where Te'o grew up.

Te'o never mentioned or denied a face-to-face meeting in public comments reviewed by the AP.

Notre Dame said Te'o found out that Kekua was not a real person through a phone call he received at an awards ceremony in Orlando, Fla., on Dec. 6. He told Notre Dame coaches about the situation on Dec. 26.

On Wednesday, Swarbrick said Notre Dame did not go public with its findings sooner because it expected the Te'o family to come forward first. But Deadspin.com broke the story that day.

Chicago Tribune columnist John Kass said the university's failure to call a news conference and go public sooner means "Notre Dame is complicit in the lie."

"The school fell in love with the Te'o girlfriend myth," he wrote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Questionable words

"I lost both my grandparents and my girlfriend to cancer. So I've really tried to go to children's hospitals and see, you know, children."

Manti Te'o during an interview for WSBT.com on Dec. 8, two days after he said he learned his girlfriend wasn't real.

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Conflict of interest? Flaherty attempted to influence CRTC on radio licence, letter shows

The Conservative government would not say whether it stands by its own accountability rules for members of cabinet after Finance Minister Jim Flaherty was accused of breaching the guidelines.

Carl Vallée, a spokesman for Stephen Harper, declined to say Thursday whether the Prime Minister's Office continues to endorse the rules on ministerial responsibility.

The controversy was sparked by news Flaherty had urged the federal broadcast regulator to grant a radio licence to a company in his Ontario riding even though the rules — posted on Harper's website — forbid ministers from trying to influence the decisions of administrative tribunals.

In his March 30, 2012, letter to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, Flaherty praised Durham Radio Inc.'s ultimately unsuccessful bid to obtain a licence to operate a new FM station for the Toronto area.

The broadcaster, based in Flaherty's Whitby-Oshawa riding, was one of several applicants last year for the hotly contested spot on the FM dial. The company — which already has country and rock radio stations — was proposing an easy-listening outlet.

In a statement to The Canadian Press, which unearthed the letter, Flaherty said he would "continue to be a strong advocate for the people and community I represent. It is my job."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Britain says neigh to eating horsemeat

'Horse burger' scandal.

Tesco supermarket chain amps up damage control in wake of discovery that meat products contained up to 29% equine flesh

Putting the cart before the horse? An employee pushes shopping carts past the entrance to a Tesco Extra supermarket in New Malden, Surrey, England, in this 2009 photo. The Tesco chain has had to apologize to Britons after horsemeat was discovered in some of its burgers. GETTY IMAGES FILE

In Britain, a horse is a horse — not a main course. Tesco, the country's biggest supermarket chain, took out full-page newspaper ads Thursday to apologize for an unwanted ingredient in some of its hamburgers: Horsemeat.

Ten million burgers have been taken off shop shelves after the revelation that beef products from three companies in Ireland and Britain contained horse DNA. Most had only small traces, but one burger of a brand sold by Tesco had meat content that was 29 per cent horse. The contrite grocer told customers that "we and our supplier have let you down and we apologize."

Reaction to the scandal in Britain goes beyond concerns about contaminated food. While people in some countries happily dine on equine flesh, in the land of Black Beauty and National Velvet, the idea fills many with horror.

Labour Party environment spokeswoman Mary Creagh reflected the feelings of many when she said Thursday that eating horsemeat is "strongly culturally taboo in the United Kingdom." She was echoing prohibitions in Western cultures that go back to 732 AD, when Pope Gregory III declared horse-eating a pagan practice. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Some people say, 'I have a horse. It'd be like eating my grandmother.'"

Paul Webb, director of Exotic Meats, a company in the English Midlands that sells products including horse burgers.

Provincial growth rates

Gap narrows between West and rest: BMO

Bank of Montreal says the gap between economic growth rates in Western Canada and the rest of the country appears to be narrowing. The resource sector continues to fuel growth in Western Canada, but the bank says it will be slower. The bank suggests Alberta's growth in the energy sector is being tempered by a lack of pipeline capacity and B.C. has been held back by a softer housing market. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Online ticketing

Ticketfly to enter Canadian market

Canadian concertgoers may soon notice there's a new online ticketing company in town aiming to compete with Ticketmaster. San Francisco-based Ticketfly says it's expanding into Canada and has reached deals with national event promoter Union Events and Toronto-based Collective Concerts to sell tickets online. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HAPPINESS IS A WARM CONFESSION

THE LIST
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

It was the best of weeks, it was the worst of weeks.
And it's not even over.

1 **Lance backpedals on Oprah.** Lance Armstrong pedals an epic two-part confession that he did in fact use performance-enhancing drugs to win a record seven Tour de France titles. If he doesn't end up resurrecting his reputation, at least he's resurrecting Oprah's ratings. Hey, it's not about the bike. Obviously, it never was.

2 **Idle No More.** You can say that again. Aboriginal people are mad as hell and they're not going to take it anymore. So they're barricading roads and bridges to make their point. But the spontaneous uprising seems to be taking more out of aboriginal leaders such as hunger-striker Theresa Spence and Assembly of First Nations Chief Shawn Atleo than original-target Stephen Harper, whose Teflon coating remains intact.

3 **Idol again!?** Hard to believe, but the talent show that started it all, American Idol, is in its 12th season. Unfortunately, it seems to have descended into a feud between Mariah Carey and Nicki Minaj, while the talent tries to get a few licks in edgewise. I never thought I'd say this, but what happened to the good old days, when professional A & R men identified The Next Big Thing?

4 **Happiness is a warm nutbar.** U.S. President Barack Obama unveils a package of gun-control measures, maintaining that weapons designed for a theatre of war have no place in a movie theatre, a reference to the mass shooting six months ago at a Colorado screening of The Dark Knight Rises. Gunslinger, er, Gov. Rick Perry of Texas angrily rejects any attempt to limit access to assault weapons and instead recommends that we "pray for help." It's worked so far …

5 **Madam, unhand that monkey.** In the inevitable court battle over who gets to keep Darwin the Ikea monkey, the people sheltering him have accused his erstwhile owner of, um, choking the monkey, hitting him with a wooden spoon, forcing him to live in a small crate and making him wear that ridiculous double-breasted shearling coat (OK, I added that last one). If God meant monkeys to go to Ikea, he would have supplied them with little Allen wrenches. Next case!

6 **Bad Dreamliners.** The entire fleet of Boeing 787s, the so-called Dreamliner, has been grounded as engineers try to figure out why the plane's batteries overheat. While they're at it, they should also figure out why I always have to sit between the crying baby and the 400-pound man.

7 **Happy birthday, Betty White.** If you're worried life has passed you by, consider Betty White. She turned 91 Thursday, but she's holding down a regular gig on Hot in Cleveland and this year launched Betty White's Off Their Rockers. Maybe you should Be Like Betty, and make today the first day of the rest of your life.

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HE DECLARES, THE WORLD WATCHES

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE INAUGURATION?

JAN. 19

U.S. President Barack Obama and his family participate in a National Day of Service.

JAN. 20

Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden are officially sworn into office at a private event at the White House.

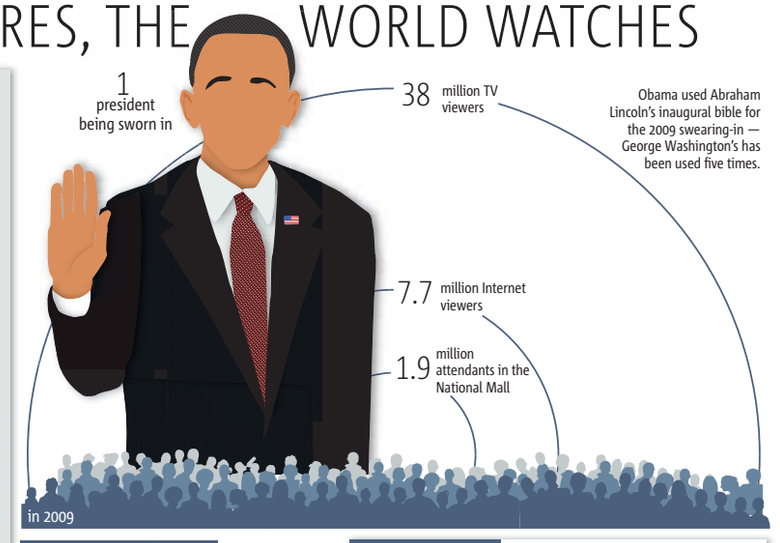
JAN. 21

- Obama, Biden and their families participate in a traditional prayer service at St. John's Church in front of the White House.
- Obama, Biden and their families ride to the Capitol. The public swearing-in ceremony takes place on a platform in front of the Capitol building.
- Biden is sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.
- Obama is sworn in by Chief Justice John Roberts.
- Obama delivers his inaugural address.
- Obama and Biden participate in an inaugural lunch with members of Congress.
- Evening: Inaugural Balls. The president and vice-president attend with their wives.

$4.2 million will be spent on preparing Capitol grounds for the swearing-in ceremony, mostly on the inaugural platform, bleachers and barricades.

SUNDAYS Inauguration Day is always Jan. 20, but by law inaugurations are never held on Sundays. Since Jan. 20 falls on a Sunday this year, the oath is then given privately on Sunday and then publicly on Monday.

35 is the amount of words in the oath for the most powerful job in the world, the U.S. presidency.


1 president being sworn in
38 million TV viewers
Obama used Abraham Lincoln's inaugural bible for the 2009 swearing-in — George Washington's has been used five times.
7.7 million Internet viewers
1.9 million attendants in the National Mall
in 2009

THE PRESIDENT'S RIDE

Barack Obama will travel in his armour-plated Cadillac One limousine to Capitol Hill for his inauguration. But cars weren't always the preferred mode of transport:

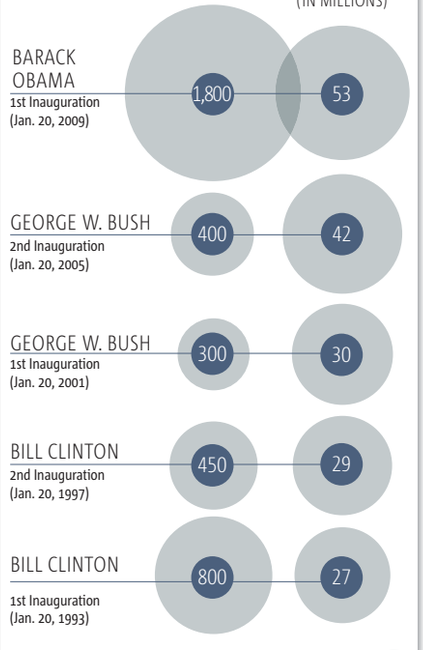
George Washington took a horse-drawn carriage to Federal Hall, New York City (April 30, 1789).

Thomas Jefferson (March 4, 1801) walked to his swearing-in from his lodgings less than 300 metres from Capitol Hill.

William Harrison (March 4, 1841) travelled to the Capitol by railroad from Virginia (an inaugural first).

Lyndon Johnson (Nov. 22, 1963) took his oath inside Air Force One, grounded at Dallas Love Field airport.

PAST INAUGURATIONS



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SOURCES: 2013PIC.ORG, CBS, CNN, FEC, JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, NIELSEN WIRE

Worth mentioning

Dear Abby advice columnist dies at 94

Pauline Friedman Phillips, who as Dear Abby dispensed snappy, sometimes saucy advice on love, marriage and meddling mothers-in-law to millions of newspaper readers around the world and opened the way for the likes of Dr. Ruth, Dr. Phil and Oprah, has died. She was 94.

Phillips died Wednesday in Minneapolis after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease, said Gene Willis, a publicist for the Universal Uclick syndicate.

Pauline Friedman Phillips GETTY IMAGES

"My mother leaves very big high heels to fill with a legacy of compassion, commitment and positive social change," her daughter, Jeanne Phillips, who now writes the column, said in a statement.

Pauline Phillips wrote under the name Abigail Van Buren. Her column competed for decades with the advice of Ann Landers, written by her twin sister, Esther Friedman Lederer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

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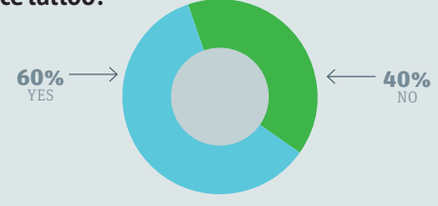
Would you elect a politician who has a full face tattoo?



Twitter

@ghoberg: Dear #NGP #JRP staff: are you recording the number of speakers who have broken into tears? What do you make of that?

@petermansbridge: Okay I'm so relieved. Finally I feel real. Twitter has verified me. I am me.

@zkassian9: Once again Vancouver showed why they are the best fans in hockey ! Great to see them come out tonight to support the scrimmage #thankyou

@VanMayorsOffice: City looks to increase artist studio spaces in industrial districts from 2 million to 28 million sq feet http://ow.ly/gTWXM #vanpoli

@DarkLotus79: Cant wait for the #canucks season opener on saturday. Hope this is the year

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DINE OUT VANCOUVER FESTIVAL
EVERY STORY STARTS WITH A RESERVATION!
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Dame Maggie Smith stars in Quartet — a story of a once famous singing group now retired and living together. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Aging a little too well

Crowd pleaser. The Reel Guys agreed Quartet was a nice look at old age, but ultimately couldn't stomach the ending

Richard: Mark, this could have gone one of two ways. It could've been a depressing look at the difficulties of growing old, or it could have turned into one of those "loveable old coot" movies. Instead, like the recent The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, it treats its elderly characters like vibrant, real people, even though they use walkers and have lapses of memory. Medical conditions aside, emotionally they are as rich — if not richer — than 90 per cent of the characters we see in any Katherine Heigl romantic comedy. What did you think?

Mark: Richard, they are lovable old coots, or at least high-functioning geezers. It's an idyllic view of old age — everyone has money and talent, and only a little bit of dementia, a wisp of a stroke, or a slightly malfunctioning hip. If they showed what old age was really like, the movie would be unwatchable. The great thing about the movie is the cast — and what a cast! Could Billy Connolly be more charming? Tom Courtenay more noble? Maggie Smith more ... Maggie Smith? But the film falls down in the storytelling. There's just not enough there. If you're going to cast these legends of stage and screen, you need to give them more to do.

RC: It is predictable, just this side of twee and don't get me started about the unsatisfying ending. Luckily it's also a crowd pleaser due to the chemistry of the cast. I loved Billy Connolly's roguishness and the sense of real warmth that exists between all the main players. That Dustin Hoffman learned a thing or two about directing actors over the years.

Synopsis

The action centres around Beechham House, a luxurious retirement home for aging musicians. Three quarters of a once famous vocal quartet, Reginald (Tom Courtenay), Cissy (Pauline Collins), and Wilfred (Billy Connolly), live there quietly until their former diva, Jean (Dame Maggie Smith), arrives. Her presence stirs up old feelings from ex-husband Reggie but might also be the key to changing the fortunes of the cash-strapped retirement home.

Star ratings:

- Richard: ●●●○○
- Mark: ●●○○○

MB: The ending is horrible, one of the worst cheats in cinematic history. I was looking forward to those venerable actors tackling Verdi. But the scene I really enjoyed was Tom Courtenay teaching a class of visiting teenagers and trying to explain opera through comparisons with rap and hip-hop. But the entire plot revolves around the will-she-or-won't-she decision of Maggie Smith to join the quartet.

The script has her make that decision too blithely after resisting so vociferously. I just wasn't convinced. And she goes from imperious wit in her grand entrance to empathetic sensitivity way too quickly. The movie's not long. Maybe a few scenes were excised?

RC: It feels a bit like there was some unfortunate chopping, but I have to say overall the actors carried the day for me. Weak story and even weaker ending notwithstanding, it's a crowd pleaser.

MB: And it looks great. It was a pleasure spending 90 minutes in a perfectly groomed mansion in the English countryside. When I start to lose it, make me a reservation.

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- Delta Vancouver Airport
- Georgian Court Hotel
- Granville Island Hotel
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Action

The Last Stand

Director. Kim Jee-Woon

Stars. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Johnny Knoxville

It may have been nearly a decade since Arnold Schwarzenegger has led a big-screen blockbuster, but in The Last Stand, the sexagenarian is proving he's still got some fight in him. The threadbare story of a small-town sheriff determined to detain a drug lord from escaping into Mexico certainly doesn't break any new ground in the action department, but for fans of the genre, it's a welcome and winking return from the former Governator.
STEVE GOW

Horror

Mama

Director. Andres Muschietti

Stars. Jessica Chastain, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau

Tragic circumstances led to two small children (Megan Charpentier and Isabelle Nélisse) being abandoned for five years in a cabin in the woods. Rescued, they are adopted by their uncle (Game of Thrones's Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) and his girlfriend (Jessica Chastain) but the question remains, who is the mysterious Mama they keep talking about? Mama has some nice subtle creepy reveals, a vivid dream sequence and, of course, the ethereal Mama, who occasionally resembles a giant hairball on the floor, but is eerie nonetheless.
RICHARD CROUSE

Drama

Amour

Director. Michael Haneke

Stars. Jean-Louis Trintignant, Emmanuelle Riva

The very definition of a small movie tackling a big subject, Amour takes a brutally hard look at aging. Retired music teachers Georges and Anne have their life thrown into flux after a medical condition leaves Anne incapacitated. Devoted to his wife, Georges refuses to check Anne into a home, opting instead to care of her himself. True to its director's reputation for creating bleak tableaus, Amour is neither precious nor judgmental of Georges decisions; rather Haneke lets his characters suffer the consequences of their decisions in a heart-wrenching film. IAN GORMELY

Drama

On the Road

Director. Walter Salles

Stars. Garrett Hedlund, Kristen Stewart

It's taken 55 years for the classic novel On the Road to be interpreted to the big-screen. Sadly, perhaps that struggle was a sign it never should've been. Adapted by Brazilian director Walter Salles (The Motorcycle Diaries), the quintessential road movie documenting writer Sal Paradise and his spontaneous pal Dean Moriarty's travels can't capture the magical energy of Jack Kerouac's so-called "unfilmable" novel and winds up inert and unaffecting.
STEVE GOW

Statham strong-arms his way to the top of the action heap

Parker. Perpetually stubbly actor relishes his brawly roles — this time out he plays a crook with a heart of gold opposite JLo

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Parker hits theatres next Friday. HANDOUT

With Parker, Jason Statham continues his bid to be the 21st century answer to his Expendables co-stars Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger, a purveyor of action films that can be big and loud but don't have to be dumb. His latest finds him playing a crafty crook with a surprisingly strict moral code — even when faced with the likes of Jennifer Lopez.

Do you consider this in the same vein as things like the Mechanic and the Italian Job, putting a modern spin on older action material?
You wouldn't be far wrong in saying that. Parker's a different sort of animal for me, though. He's a crook, he's a criminal, but there's something about him that makes you forgive what he's doing in some way, and I think there's an interesting aspect to that. You know, you're not supposed to like crooks or criminals. You know, he's devoted to his girlfriend. There's something about that as well. Crooks and criminals usually haven't got many morals. They do whatever they can for their ill-gotten gains... but this guy has a particular way of taking it, and he has a way of protecting what he cares about.

It's interesting, that girlfriend character, since you also have Jennifer Lopez in the movie, and people would assume, you two together on screen...
You'd expect something. When's it going to go off? I know, some people will go, "Oh, I don't believe it, it's stupid. How could he resist? It's f–ing Jennifer Lopez. What, is he blind? Is he stupid?" But (director) Taylor (Hackford) was insistent on keeping this guy true to himself and him having a strength in departments where other men were weak.

He's kind of an OCD criminal, particularly with one very detailed line he delivers before dispatching a bad guy.
Yes! "You were supposed to torch the hay bales behind the livestock pavilion!" Boom! I love that line. I'm glad you noticed that, I loved that line. When I read the screenplay, I was like, "Oh my God, I f—ing love this guy." Right to the end, he f—ing never let that f—er forget, you know?

There aren't that many new action stars in the vein of your Expendables co-stars. How did you manage to become one of them?
I mean, to categorize myself in the same breath as Stallone and Arnold is a little bit beyond me, but I love their movies. I'm a big action movie junkie, and it's great to be making action movies. I think it's still the strongest genre and always has been. I think it gets a bad name for itself sometimes because sometimes they're a bit thin on story, and there are more often than not a lot of crap ones that get made. That wave just seems to wash over some of them. But I love being in the action movie genre. It's fun, and it's better than doing period dramas back in England. For me, at least.

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Five films to watch at Sundance

The annual Sundance Film Festival begins this weekend, with Hollywood's deal makers gathering in snowy Park City, Utah, to see what might go on to become the breakout hit of 2013. The toast of last year's festival, Beast of the Southern Wild, went on to earn four high-profile Academy Award nominations, including best picture. Here's our pick of what will get the most attention at this year's fest.

NED EHRBAR, MWN

Kill Your Darlings

John Krokidas' debut feature offers a dark glimpse into the early days of the Beat Generation and is a must-see at this year's festival, with an impressive young cast — Daniel Radcliffe, Ben Foster and Boardwalk Empire scene-stealer Jack Huston — taking on Ginsberg, Burroughs and Kerouac, respectively.

Don Jon's Addiction

Joseph Gordon-Levitt is something of a Sundance darling on his own (and he's even hosting the festival's award ceremony this year), so his directorial debut — about a lothario with an addiction to online porn — is instantly a must-see. Gordon-Levitt also stars, along with Scarlett Johansson and Julianne Moore.

Jobs

This one already has a distributor — and an April release date — and is the closing night film for the festival, but curiosity over seeing Ashton Kutcher's turn as Apple co-founder Steve Jobs is a huge factor here. Early buzz has been strong, suggesting Kutcher may be able to ump from the more lightweight fare he's known for. Book of Mormon star Josh Gad co-stars as Steve Wozniak.

The Spectacular Now

(500) Days of Summer writers Michael Weber and Scott Neustadter are back with this probably less sunny tale, based on Tim Tharp's novel, about a hard-partying high school senior played by Miles Teller who meets an outsider played by Shailene Woodley who changes his life. Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Kyle Chandler and Jennifer Jason Leigh also star.

The East

The Sound of My Voice team of director Zal Batmanglij and writer/star Brit Marling are back with this tense tale of an FBI agent infiltrating a group of anarchists out to get corporate fat-cats and manufacturers. Ellen Page and Alexander Skarsgard also star.

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14A FRIGHTENING SCENES
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ENTERTAINMENT ONE

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN.18 TO THURS., JAN. 24. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Dunbar Theatre
4555 Dunbar Street

Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 3:15-7-10:15
Sat-Sun 12-3:15-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:30

Fifth Avenue Cinemas
2110 Burrard Street

Amour (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-6:40-9:20
Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Thu 3:40-7-10:15 A Late Quartet (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-6:50-9:30 Lincoln (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30 Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:10-9:40
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Thu 9:35

Pacific Cinémathèque
1131 Howe Street

Canada's Top Ten Shorts: Programme One (STC) Sun 6:30 Canada's Top Ten Shorts: Programme Two (STC) Sun 7:45
Emissary Into Time and Memory: A Tribute to Chris Marker (STC) Thu 6:30
John Smith - Shorts (STC) Wed 7
Rebelle (STC) Fri 8:35 Sat 6:30
Return to Oz (STC) Sun 1
Stories We Tell (PG) Fri 6:30 Sat 8:15
Tracking Changes: Voyeurism and Surveillance in Video (STC) Mon 7:30

Park Theatre
3440 Cambie Street

Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 3:30-7-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:30-7-10:15

Ridge Theatre
3131 Arbutus Street

Les Misérables (PG) Fri 3:45-7-10:10 Sat 12:30-3:45-7-10:10 Sun 1-4:15-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:30

Rio on Broadway
1660 E. Broadway

The Master (14A) Mon-Tue 7 Thu 7
Moonrise Kingdom (PG) Mon-Tue 10
The Rocky Horror Picture Show (PG) Fri 8
Sukiyaki Western Django (18A) Fri 11

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver
900 Burrard St.

Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-3:10-3:40-7:20-10:10-10:50 Sun 12:10-3:10-3:40-7:15-10:10-10:45 Mon 3:10-3:20-6:50-10:10-10:20 Tue 12:10-3:10-3:40-7:15-10:10-10:45 Wed-Thu 3:10-3:20-6:50-10:10-10:20
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri 12-2:40-5:20-8:10-10:55 Sat 2:40-5:20-8:10-10:55 Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:45 Mon 2:20-4:15-6:45-10:20 Tue 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:45 Wed-Thu 2:20-5-7:40-10:20
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-5:30-9:15 Mon 12:45-9:15 Tue-Thu 1:45-5:30-9:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:05-6:45-10:30 Mon 3:05-6:40-10:15 Tue 3:05-6:45-10:30 Wed 3:05-6:40-10:15 Thu 2:30-6:20
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:25
Mama (14A) Fri 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Sat 11:15-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:40 Mon 12:35-3-5:25-7:55-10:25 Tue 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:40 Wed 12:45-3-5:25-7:55-10:25 Thu 12:45-3:15-7:30-10:25
The Metropolitan Opera: La Clemenza Di Tito Encore (G) Mon 6:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Les Misérables (PG) Fri 11:45-12:15-3:45-6:35-7:15-10:40 Sat 10:15-11:45-12:15-3:45-6:35-7:15-10:40 Sun 11:45-12:15-3:45-6:35-7:15-10:40 Mon 12:30-3:45-6:35-7:05-10:30 Tue 11:45-12:15-3:45-6:35-7:15-10:40 Wed 12:30-3:45-6:35-7:05-10:30 Thu 12:30-3:45-7:05-10:30
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sat 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:45 Sun 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:30 Mon 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30 Tue 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:30 Wed-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30

North Shore Esplanade 6
200 West Esplanade

Django Unchained (14A) , Fri 8:30 , Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 , Mon-Thu 8:30
Gangster Squad (14A) , Fri 7-9:40 , Sat-Sun 12:15-4:10-7-9:40 , Mon-Thu 7-9:40
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) , Sat-Sun 4 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) , Fri 8 , Sat-Sun 12-8 , Mon-Thu 8 The Impossible (14A) , Fri 6:40-9:30 , Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:30 , Mon-Thu 6:40-9:30
The Last Stand (14A) , Fri 7:10-9:45 , Sat-Sun 1-4:20-7:10-9:45 , Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45
Mama (14A) , Fri 6:50-9:20 , Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:50-9:20 , Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20

Park & Tilford
333 Brooksbank Ave.

Broken City (14A) Fri 7:20-10 Sat 11:30-2:05-4:40-7:20-10 Sun 2:05-4:40-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1 Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Thu 10
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri 7-9:45 Sat 12-4:05-7-9:45 Sun 12:20-4:05-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:10-10 The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Les Misérables (PG) Fri 8:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-5-8:30 Mon-Thu 7:45
Quartet (PG) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat 11:45-2:10-4:30-7:15-9:50 Sun 2:10-4:30-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1 Skyfall (PG) Fri 7:10-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:25-7:10-10:20 Mon-Tue 7-10:05 Wed 10:05 Thu 7
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 6:50-10:15 Sat 11:50-3:20-6:50-10:15 Sun 12:10-3:30-6:50-10:15 Mon-Thu 6:50-10:10

SilverCity Riverport
14211 Entertainment Way

Broken City (14A) Fri 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:55-10:35 Sat-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2-4:45-7:35-10:20
Django Unchained (14A) Fri 12-3:30-7-9:10:40 Sat 12-3:40-7:20-9-11 Sun 11:40-3:10-7-9-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:20-9-10
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8:10-10:55 Mon-Thu 2-4:45-7:40-10:30
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters — An IMAX 3D Experience (18A) Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Thu 8:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri 12-3:30-7-10:45 Sat-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Wed 1-4:40-8:15 Thu 12:30-4
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-5:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:10-10
The Impossible (14A) Fri 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:55 Sat-Sun 11:50-2:30-5:10-8:05-10:55 Mon-Wed 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:15 Thu 4:40-7:30-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri 1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Sat 2-5-8:05-11 Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon-Tue 12:30-3:50-6:55-10:05 Wed 4:40-7:35-10:30 Thu 12:30-3:50-6:55-10:05
The Last Stand (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:45-5:20-7:55-10:30
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri 1:30-4:15-7:25-10:20 Sat 10:35-1:30-4:25-7:25-10:35 Sun 1:30-4:15-7:25-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:20
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:15-3:40-7-10:15
Looney Tunes: Back in Action (STC) Sat 11
Mama (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:35-5-7:40-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sat 12:05-3:30-6:55-10:25 Sun 11:45-3:10-6:35-10:05 Mon-Wed 12:10-3:35-7-10:25 Thu 7-10:25
Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri 12-2:20-4:50-7:20 Sat 11:20-11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20 Sun 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20 Mon-Thu 2:20-4:50-7:20
Parental Guidance (G) Fri 1:10-3:40-6:20 Sat 10:35-1:10-3:40-6:20 Sun 1:10-3:40-6:20 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:35-6:20
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 1:05-3:45-6:15 Sat 10:45-1:05-3:45-6:15 Sun-Thu 1:05-3:45-6:15
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:40 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Mon-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:45-9:55
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:05-10:25
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri 10:05 Sat-Sun 10:10 Mon-Thu 10:05
This Is 40 (14A) Fri 1:40-4:50-7:40-10:50 Sat 10:30-1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Mon-Thu 12:50-4-7:10-10:10
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:10-3:40-7:05-10:30 ‘

Dolphin Cinemas
4555 E. Hastings St.

Django Unchained (14A) Fri 5:10-8:20 Sat-Sun 2-5:10-8:20 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:20
Life of Pi (G) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30

SilverCity Metropolis
4700 Kingsway Ave.

Broken City (14A) Fri 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25 Sat 1:15-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25 Sun 12-2:30-5-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 2-4:35-7:20-9:50 Django Unchained (14A) Fri 11:55-3:30-7:10-10:40 Sat 11-4:05-7:30-11 Sun 11:55-3:30-6:55-10:30 Mon 3-7-10:15 Tue-Thu 3:20-6:55-10:25
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri 11:50-2:30-5:15-8:10-11 Sat 1:35-2:30-5:15-8:10-11 Sun 11:50-2:30-5:15-8:10-10:45 Mon-Wed 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:10 Thu 1:30-4:15-8-10:30 Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:05-6:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:05-6:45-10:20
The Last Stand (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8-10:35 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:45-7:25-9:55
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri 1-4-7:05-10 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:25-10:15 Sun 2:15-5:05-7:55-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:55-6:50-9:45
Looney Tunes: Back in Action (STC) Sat 11 Mama (14A) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Sun 12:45-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:30-4:55-7:30-10
The Metropolitan Opera: La Clemenza Di Tito Encore (G) Mon 6:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Les Misérables (PG) Fri 11:40-3:10-6:35-10:05 Sat 11:10-3:50-7:20-10:45 Sun 11:40-3:10-6:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:40-10:05
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sat 12:25-3:55-7:20-10:30 Sun 12:25-3:55-7:15-10:25 Mon 1-4-10:30 Tue-Wed 1-4:05-7:10-10:15 Thu 6:50
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Sat 11 Sun 11:45
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sat 12:15-3:40-7-10:45 Sun 12:15-3:40-7-10:15 Mon 3:40-7:05-10:25 Tue-Wed 3:40-7:05-10:30 Thu 3:15-7:05-10:30

SilverCity Coquitlam
170 Schoolhouse Street

Broken City (14A) Fri-Sun 11:55-2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Mon-Tue 2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Wed 5:05-7:45-10:25 Thu 2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sun 11:40-3:20-7-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:55-7-10:40
Fri-Sun 1:45-5:30-9:30 Mon 5:30-9:15 Tue 1:45-5:30-9:15 Wed-Thu 5:30-9:15
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:30-7:30-10:35 Mon 4:30-7:30-10:30 Tue 1:20-4:30-7:30-10:30 Wed-Thu 4:30-7:30-10:30 Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:25-8:10-10:55 Mon-Thu 2:15-5-7:50-10:30
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Thu 10 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 11:25 Mon-Thu 3
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 3-6:50-10:35 Mon-Thu 6:50-10:35 Fri-Sun 12:45-5-8:45 Mon 5-8:45 Tue 1-5-8:45 Wed-Thu 5-8:45
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:45-7:50-11 Mon-Wed 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:35 Thu 1-4-7
The Last Stand (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:20-8-10:40
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:20-10:15 Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 7:05-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:05-10:20
Looney Tunes: Back in Action (STC) Sat 11 Mama (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:35-7 Mon 5 Tue 3:35-7 Wed-Thu 5 Les Misérables (PG) Fri 4:05-7:35 Sat-Sun 12:35-4:05-7:35 Mon 8 Tue 4:05-7:35 Wed-Thu 8
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:10-6:40-10:10 Mon-Tue 2:50-6:40-10:10 Wed 6:40-10:10 Thu 2:50-6:40-10:10 Fri-Sun 12:15-4-8 Mon 4-8 Tue 12:30-4-8 Wed-Thu 4-8 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Thu 1
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 11:45-2:10-4:35 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:35
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 1:05-4:15-7:25-10:20 Sat 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:20 Sun-Thu 1:05-4:15-7:25-10:20
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 3:35-6:55-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:55-10:05
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:25-7:35-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:25-7:30-10:35
The Tower (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:45-9:40 Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sat 12:15-3:40-7:15-10:45 Sun 12:30-3:55-7:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:15-10:45 Fri-Sun 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:50-10:15

Clova
5732-176th St., Surrey

The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Thu 9:25
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri-Thu 7
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Sat-Sun 1:30

Hollywood 3 Cinema
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Argo (PG) Fri-Thu 9:05
Hotel Transylvania (G) Sat 2:15
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri-Thu 6:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Sun 12:20-4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2:40-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Thu 8:45
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 8:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Thu 4:15
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 2:20-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri 4:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:40 Mon-Thu 4:40

Strawberry Hill Grande
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey

Broken City (14A) Fri-Tue 12-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:30 Wed 5:10-7:50-10:30 Thu 12-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sun 11:40-3:20-7-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:20-7-10:40
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:10-10:50
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (18A) Thu 10 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:30-3-6:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 2-5:30-9:15
The Last Stand (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:20-8-10:40
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:55-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:40-9:40
Looney Tunes: Back in Action (STC) Sat 11 Mama (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Matru Ki Bijlee Ka Mandola (G) Fri-Tue 2:30-6:30-9:45 Wed 6:30-9:45 Thu 2:30-6:30-9:45
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:10-6:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:35-10:05
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Tue 12 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 Thu 12
Saadi Love Story (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:05-10
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:45 Thu 1-4:05-7:10
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:45

Studio 12 Guildford
15051-101st Ave, Surrey

Broken City (14A) Fri 4:10-7:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-4:10-7:40 Mon 7:55 Tue 4:10-7:40 Wed-Thu 7:55 Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sun 3:40-7:20 Mon 7:50 Tue 3:40-7:20 Wed-Thu 7:50 Gangster Squad (14A) Fri 4:20-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:55-4:20-7-9:40 Mon 5:15-8:15 Tue 4:20-7-9:40 Wed-Thu 5:15-8:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Sat-Sun 12:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 4-7:45 Mon 7:45 Tue 4-7:45 Wed-Thu 7:45 The Last Stand (14A) Fri 3:50-7:15-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:50-7:15-9:50 Mon 5:30-8:30 Tue 3:50-7:15-9:50 Wed-Thu 5:30-8:30 Mama (14A) Fri 4:25-6:45-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:05-4:25-6:45-10:10 Mon 5:45-8:35 Tue 4:25-6:45-10:10 Wed-Thu 5:45-8:35
Matru Ki Bijlee Ka Mandola (G) Fri 3:35-7 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:35-7 Mon 5 Tue 3:35-7 Wed-Thu 5 Les Misérables (PG) Fri 4:05-7:35 Sat-Sun 12:35-4:05-7:35 Mon 8 Tue 4:05-7:35 Wed-Thu 8
One More Try (PG) Fri 3:20-6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:20-6:50-9:50 Mon 5:50-8:45 Tue 3:20-6:50-9:50 Wed-Thu 5:50-8:45
Parental Guidance (G) Sat-Sun 1
Saadi Love Story (PG) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:20 Mon 5:40-8:40 Tue 3:30-6:30-9:20 Wed-Thu 5:40-8:40 Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 3:35-6:35-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:35-6:35-9:30 Mon 5:20-8:25 Tue 3:35-6:35-9:30 Wed-Thu 5:20-8:25
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 9:10 Mon 8:10 Tue 9:10 Wed-Thu 8:10
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 3:55-7:25 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:55-7:25 Mon 5:05-8:20 Tue 3:55-7:25 Wed-Thu 5:05-8:20

Rialto, 1732-152nd Street, White Rock

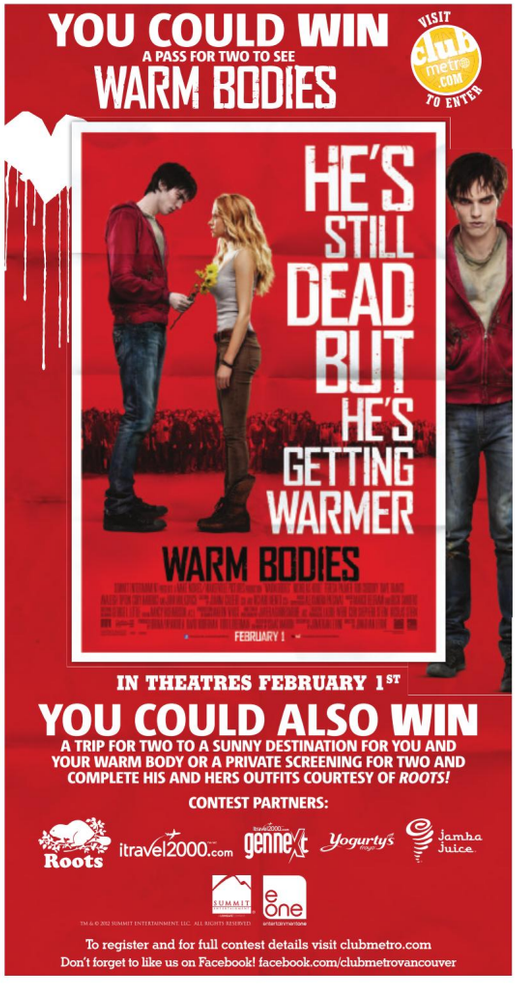
Les Misérables (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15

Criterion 4 White Rock
2381 King George Highway

Broken City (14A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 2:20-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20
Django Unchained (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Gangster Squad (14A) Fri 7:15-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:15-9:25 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:25
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri 7:45 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:45 Mon-Thu 7:45

Colossus Langley
20090-91A Ave, Langley

Broken City (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:20-10:25
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:15 Mon-Thu 4:35
Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-7-10:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:45-9:30 Gangster Squad (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8:10-11 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:25-10:20
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters — An IMAX 3D Experience (18A) Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 6-9:45 Mon-Thu 9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-7-10:45 Mon-Wed 4:20-8 Thu 6:30 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-5:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:45-9:30
The Impossible (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:20 Mon-Tue 4-7:10-10:05 Wed 7:10-10:05 Thu 4-7:10-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri-Sun 7:40-10:50 Mon 10:20 Tue-Thu 7:20-10:20
The Last Stand (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:25-10:25
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:15-7:25-10:25 Mon-Thu 4-7:05-10:15
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:50-7:05-10:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:50-10:10
Looney Tunes: Back in Action (STC) Sat 11 Mama (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:30-10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: La Clemenza Di Tito Encore (G) Mon 6:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:10-6:40-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:35-7-10:30
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:20-4:55-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:50
Quartet (PG) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Mon-Tue 4:10-6:55-9:40 Wed 6:55-9:40 Thu 4:10-6:55-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:25 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:15
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:35-7:25-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:55-9:55
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:55-7:10-10:35 Mon-Tue 3:40-7:10-10:30 Wed 3:40-10:30 Thu 3:40-7:10-10:30
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:30-7:35-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:05-10:10
Zero Dark Thirty (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40-7:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:35-7-10:30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Ripper Street is no Downton Abbey: This week on TV

Captain Homer Jackson (Adam Rothenbeg) from Ripper Street.
HANDOUT

Dedicated fans of the mind-bending sci-fi serial Fringe will want to savour Friday's hotly anticipated finale — teasers suggest a catastrophic final battle as the crew faces the Observers. The two-hour swan song sees the team implement a plan as Olivia begins a dangerous journey into the unknown. **(City)**

The supernatural series Haven airs back-to-back new episodes Friday, culminating with its Season 3 finale, Thanks for the Memories. Here, Audrey is forced to face some hard truths and make a terrible decision that will determine the fate of the mysterious town of Haven. **(Showcase)**

Airing Saturday, the gruesome British drama Ripper Street is far from the world of Downton Abbey. The setting here is 19th century East London and the story chronicles an atmosphere of mayhem and brutality in the wake of Jack The Ripper's crimes. Matthew Macfadyen stars as Edmund Reid, the lead inspector charged with maintaining order on London's chaotic streets. Six months after the last Jack The Ripper killing, a fragile peace emerges. But in the premiere episode, a young woman is found brutally murdered with Ripper's hallmark signs. **(Space)**

Silver Linings Playbook star Jennifer Lawrence detours from the awards show circuit to host Saturday Night Live, perhaps the ultimate test of celebrity stature. No doubt there will be a Hunger Games skit in the offing for the Oscar-nominated actress. She's joined by musical guest The Lumineers. **(Global, NBC)**

Over on Girls, Hannah gets some unsolicited musical attention from heartbroken Adam and some not-so-great opinions on her writing from her new guy on Sunday. Elijah questions his sexuality and Marnie makes a career compromise when her curatorial dreams are crushed. **(HBO Canada)** THE CANADIAN PRESS

'I thought I'd end up on cable'

The following. Kevin Bacon talks career choices and ending up on network television

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

The Following premieres Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. ET/PT on CTV and CTV Two.
HANDOUT

It's taken surprisingly long for Kevin Bacon to find his way to the lead role in a TV drama, but he's finally doing so with The Following, from Scream creator Kevin Williamson. And the biggest surprise, at least to Bacon, is that it's on network television.

"I honestly thought I'd end up on cable," says Bacon, whose wife, Kyra Sedgewick, has done well for herself in the cable world with The Closer. But Bacon doesn't mind guessing wrong about his own career.

What did the shows you ended up not doing not have that this one has?
Well, it was a couple of things. First off, I tried to develop two that didn't quite get there by the time this one came along. Sometimes they were amazing pilots and people would say to me, "Yeah, but is there really a show there?" And since I'm really not used to reading something with the eye on four years down the line or whatever, that was kind of a new thing to me. I was like, "Yeah, but it's a great script." And then other things had just strange kind of network or cable politics around them that they just didn't fall into place, and this one did. It's hard to know.

So this one has something in it that could carry on for years, you think?
Yeah, but what do I know? A lot of times you do these types of (press events) and people talk to you a lot about, "What was the choice that went into that?" That only really makes sense if the thing is successful and embraced. Then it becomes, "Oh, that was a great choice!" I mean, look how many f–ing movies I've done, and how many of them are hits? Two per cent? Five per cent? Not a lot of them. So I've made a lot of bad choices. I'm not someone who thinks too carefully about what the long-term implications are.

You mentioned you thought you'd end up on cable when you got to TV.
Well yeah, when I first approached the idea of doing a show, yeah, I thought cable. Well, first off I went from the idea that cable was just going to be Showtime or HBO. Premium, right? And then in the course of a year or so, that's when it started to morph. All of a sudden I'm like, "Holy s—, Breaking Bad is off the chain!" Look at shows that are on FX, you know. And The Closer. And now all of a sudden it's like, "Well what about Netflix?" You just do a show and there is no network. Things have changed and morphed so much.

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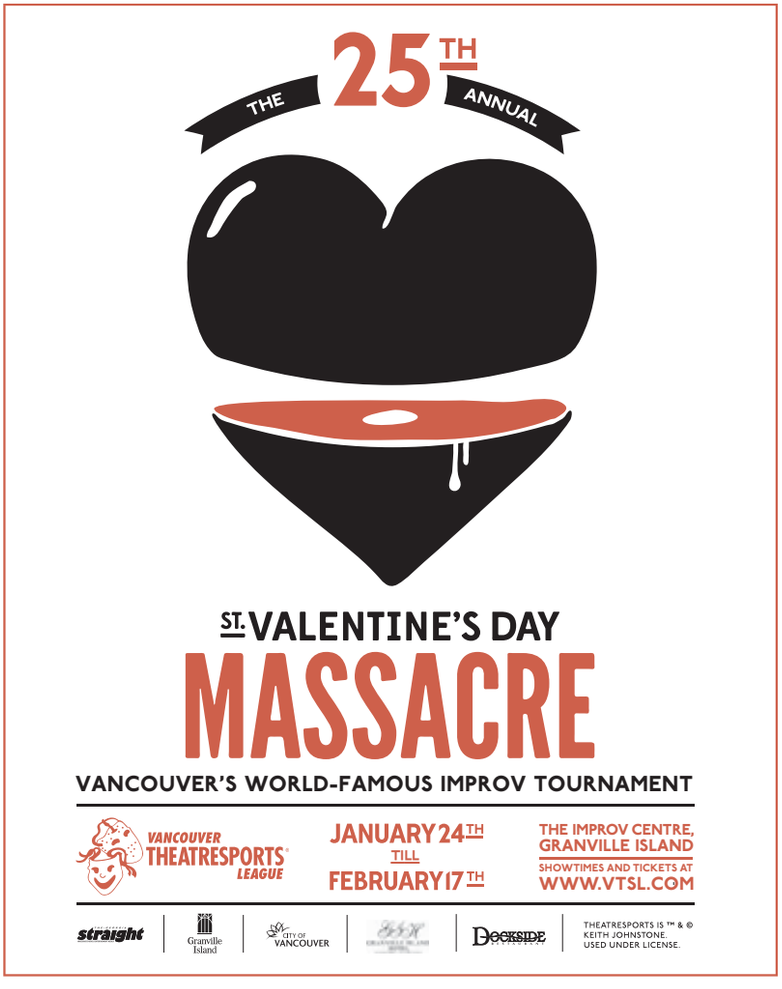
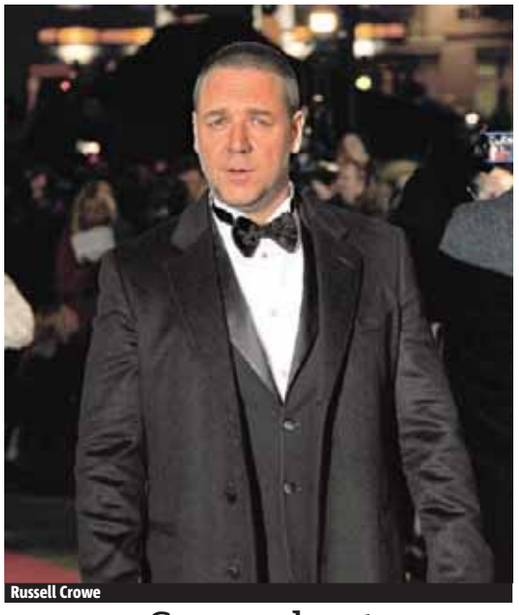


METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Russell Crowe

Crowe shoots down romantic rumours

Russell Crowe has taken to Twitter to refute a New York Post story that he and burlesque star Dita Von Teese are an item.

The paper reported that the pair had enjoyed "a romantic couple's massage" at the Four Seasons hotel in New York last month and have been getting flirty.

"Dita Von Teese is brave, smart, sweet and elegant. She is a friend of mine. Who wouldn't want friends like that? Friends, not lovers," Crowe tweeted after the item appeared.

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The Word

Is Lohan working as a high-paid escort?

Lindsay Lohan has reportedly found a new way to help pay off her hefty debts. Her father, Michael Lohan, and other sources claim that the troubled actress is making money working as a high-class escort, according to Star magazine.

"She is getting paid to date rich men," Michael says, putting the blame squarely on his ex-wife, Dina Lohan. "Dina is pimping her out. It's disgusting."

But so far there are no allegations of Lindsay providing any services more intimate than acting as arm candy.

"The dates last for days, and the guys pay for everything — hotel, travel costs, food, whatever — as well as jewelry and other gifts," another source tells the magazine.

Nicole Kidman. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kidman not weirded out by peeing on Zac Efron

Nicole Kidman has been getting plenty of attention for her Golden-Globe-nominated role in the Paperboy thanks to an infamous scene in which she urinates on Zac Efron.

But Kidman doesn't get what the big deal is.

"I just don't find urination shocking. I think I peed in the beginning of Eyes Wide Shut, too. But then, I don't find a lot of things shocking. Violence is a lot more shocking than sex — sex is primal," she tells the Hollywood Reporter.

"I felt shy singing in Moulin Rouge, but peeing — no, not shy."

Twitter

@RebelWilson
I would never online date..unless it was for 'comedy research.'The other things I've done for 'comedy research' include fat camp, drinking..

@JoshRadnor
I would be a terrible matador.

@msleamichele
Treated myself to a little mani/pedi after work today:) Relaxing now and catching up on #topchef!

@AlbertBrooks
Bless me Oprah for I have sinned.

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TENNIS CANADA

Liquid Assets

Old and new school taste

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
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French wines are a lot like David Bowie. Just when you think they've got nothing new to offer, they come out of nowhere with a brand new vibe based on their old school legacy.

While Bowie has his first album in a decade dropping in March, savvy wine lovers are rediscovering the value found across France — especially in its lesser known regions like the Côtes du Rhône. Though famous for Châteauneuf-du-Pape — its liquid love letter to the pope — many wine newbies are surprised to discover that the Rhône Valley is the original home of both the red syrah (a.k.a. shiraz) and grenache grape varieties.

Grenache dominates the southern portion of the valley, where the bright-fruited berry makes up the majority of the area's blends. Most are smooth, new worldly wines with great food appeal (think everything from hearty stews and lamb to a relaxed charcuterie platter).

Famille Perrin is a regional superstar and its grenache-led 2010 Côtes du Rhône Réserve Rouge ($15.95 to $17.99) is rich and elegant with licorice and wild berry aromatics and a meaty, mouth-filling body of balanced black fruit.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Chicken and Waffles add soul to brunch

Quick eats. Good food doesn't have to take forever to prepare with this delicious recipe

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicken and Waffles combines the best of the breakfast and dinner worlds in one soul food dish made famous by the Southern U.S.

There's even a whole chapter devoted to the meal in Fried Chicken: An American Story by John T. Edge.

In it, he writes that the dish goes back to the late 19th century, when Southern African-Americans, recently freed from slavery, began migrating to the northern United States.

According to Edge: "My guess is that it comes from the days when someone would go out in the morning and wring a chicken's neck and fry it for breakfast.

"Preparing a breakfast bread with whatever meat you have on the hoof, so to speak, comes out of the rural tradition."

The fried chicken is usually served with a waffle that is covered in butter or syrup. This version, however, is more like the traditional Pennsylvania Dutch dish, which consists of a plain waffle with pulled, stewed chicken covered in gravy.

But it's even easier than that when you use store-bought waffles and rotisserie chicken.

No frozen waffles handy? You can serve this chicken and gravy over toasted slabs of sourdough bread too.

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Two 4-oz containers sliced button mushrooms
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup white wine
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 4 frozen waffles
- Meat from a 2-lb rotisserie chicken, warmed and shredded

1. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the mushrooms, onion and garlic, then sauté until the mushrooms are browned and the pan is nearly dry, about 5 minutes.

2. Add the wine and stir to deglaze the pan. When the wine has evaporated, stir in the cream, then bring to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper, then set aside.

3. Toast the waffles according to package directions. Place one toasted waffle on each serving plate. Top with a heap of warmed, shredded chicken, then spoon ample amounts of mushroom gravy over it.

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Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events courtesy of Notable.ca.
To get even more info on these Notable happenings make sure to check out notable.ca/nationwide/metro/Jan18

NOTABLE NOW
Julian Brass, Founder of notable.ca, Canada's online source for young professionals

On now: Dine Out Vancouver (Jan.18 to Feb. 3)

Take a break from kitchen duty for the next several weeks and tap into Vancouver's thriving culinary scene. Dine Out Vancouver is back with a record number of participating restaurants (more than 200), plenty of appetizing special events, educational seminars and more. Taste your way around the city and enjoy feasting on prix fixe menus that won't break the budget (starting at $18 to $38). For more info and to reserve, visit: dineoutvancouver.com.

Canada's top 10 films of 2012

Starting this weekend (for three consecutive weekends-only), celebrate all things regarding excellence in Canadian film. This special ongoing event kicks off with a special guest appearance on Friday when TIFF Artistic Director Cameron Bailey will be on hand to present top-notch features: Stories We Tell and Rebelle. As the event suggests, theatre-goers will have the opportunity to view 10 top films and wave-making shorts at The Cinematheque, 1131 Howe St. Learn more here: thecinematheque.ca.

Game Design Expo 2013

This weekend, the Vancouver Film School is hosting a very special event guaranteed to pique the interest of hardcore players and would-be designers hoping to get into this creative field. Now in its seventh year, the multi-day event features an open house, seminars and plenty of gaming time at 200-198 West Hastings. If you can't make the cut (as it does fill up quickly), be sure to get on their list for next time. Learn more here: gamedesign.com

Third annual Hot Chocolate festival (Jan. 19 to Feb. 14)

Always a wintertime favourite worth warming up to, be sure to take in this decadent festival celebrating more than 60 different flavours of the gooey-good stuff. Presented by Cityfood Magazine, this collective celebration of cocoa is definitely worth noting and features 19 different hot chocolate venues showcasing their own uniquely sweet concoction. Learn more about the various temptations by visiting: cityfood.com and map out your month of chocolate-coated fun.

Lululemon warehouse sale

If you're in need of a new gym-worthy wardrobe or looking for a new studio look, be sure to check out the annual warehouse sale for this popular hometown brand at BC Place, 777 Pacific Blvd. Starting Friday morning at 8 a.m. sharp, it runs each day until 8 p.m. (last entrance is at 6 p.m., so don't delay). Get your shop on, score amazing deals and partake in free Vinyasa and goal-setting classes. You'll be geared up for a great year ahead in no time. Full details here: lululemon.com/vancouver/vanwarehousesale/events/.

Coming up: Taste the World 2013

On Tuesday from 7 p.m to 9.30 p.m make your way to this annual fundraiser. Tackle the silent auction table featuring hundreds of items and enter to win the grand prize raffle as you sip your way around the world. Taste the World also showcases dozens of vintners pouring a selection of their very best paired with delicious bites — courtesy of YEW restaurant. Tickets are $75. Proceeds will benefit children's charities in Asia. Visit: fwab.org/canadatickets to learn more.

ADVERTORIAL

GOURMET CASTLE RESTAURANT
TRADITIONAL CHINESE FOOD

When Gourmet Castle Restaurant owner Ming Huang decided to open this restaurant 2 years ago, he knew his recipe for success would come from quality ingredients, deluxe portions and a delicious taste. Having welcomed many guests and built a solid base of loyal clientele, it's clear that his decision to follow this formula was a good one!

Although Gourmet Castle is fairly new to the Vancouver landscape; owner Ming Huang is no stranger to this business. His extensive history and experience as a chef for the past 25 years has satisfied thousands of discerning foodies. Today, Mr. Huang can be found greeting his guests to his fully licensed establishment which operates 7 days a week from 4pm until late night.

The inviting environment of this establishment seats up to 100 guests, and includes a private function room which can accommodate between 20 – 50 people. Located just 1 minute away from the PNE and with lots of free customer parking, this restaurant is a great place for food & drinks before or after your next concert, Vancouver Giants game, or other special event! Be sure to ask about special gift cards that are given to first time diners and offer future discounts at the restaurant.

Looking for a tasty meal with exceptional value, diverse flavors and an appealing presentation? Here's some food for thought:

• Green Beans with Pork, Shrimp and house made chili sauce

• Lemon chicken: served with an exquisite house made lemon sauce

• Crispy Ginger Beef with mixed veggies…always a favorite among western diners

• Seafood fried rice: loaded with lobster, scallop, shrimp, squid and daily fish

With more than 100 mouth-watering dishes to choose from, Gourmet Castle offers a culinary delight of traditional Chinese food for dinner and late night cravings!

Gourmet Castle owners Mr. and Mrs. Huang sponsor last year's "Miss Chinese Vancouver" a local fundraising event in support of cancer research.

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MLS

Whitecaps get younger, faster at SuperDraft

The Vancouver Whitecaps drafted young. Very young. But what striker-winger Kekuta Manneh lacks in age, the local Major League Soccer side believes he makes up for in speed and skill.

The Whitecaps acquired the fourth overall pick from Toronto FC in exchange for the 10th overall selection in Thursday's MLS SuperDraft then used their improved standing to take Manneh, who just turned the ripe old age of 18 years on Dec. 30.

Also equipped with the fifth overall pick, the Whitecaps then selected slightly older striker-winger Erik Hurtado, who turned 22 last November.

"There may be some questions.... Do we need to wait a year or two before he gets his opportunity?" said Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi of Manneh during a conference call Thursday.

"I've always been a big believer that if you're good enough, you're old enough. It happens everywhere around the world that young players get opportunities, so we're hopeful that once he gets in we can get to work with helping him achieve his dream."

The Whitecaps open training camp with physicals in Vancouver on Sunday, and will then travel to Casa Grande, Ariz., for a 10-day camp. Their first exhibition game is Jan. 29 against the New England Revolution in Casa Grande.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

Lulay's 'journey' with B.C. Lions extended

CFL. Team re-signs 2011 Grey Cup MVP quarterback through 2015 season

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

B.C. Lions general manager Wally Buono announces the signing of quarterback Travis Lulay to a new contract in Vancouver on Thursday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's rare to see Travis Lulay in a suit, but this was a special occasion.

The 29-year-old quarterback officially signed a contract extension with the B.C. Lions that runs through the 2015 Canadian Football League season.

Lulay, who first signed with the Lions as a free agent back in 2009 and put in time as a third-string quarterback, was the CFL's most outstanding player and Grey Cup most valuable player in 2011.

"You start to think back on the journey on a day like today," Lulay told reporters

"Four years ago, (I was) coming in not knowing if I was on my last legs as a pro. If I didn't ... make that team in training camp of '09 I probably would've hung them up. I probably would've been done at that point in time.

"To have been given the opportunity, I'm forever grateful to (general manager Wally Buono) and the organization for just giving an opportunity to get on the field."

Buono said this week that signing Lulay to an extension was a priority for the team, given his pivot could still have future looks at a career in the National Football League.

"The comfort I take in all of this is I think we all know Travis probably had other things he could've looked at, other things he maybe could've gotten into," Buono added Thursday.

Becoming the Lions' starting quarterback was not without its struggles.

One of the turning points in Lulay's career was early in the 2011 season when the Lions started with five losses in their first six games.

Week 7 found B.C. getting soundly beaten by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in front of increasingly disgruntled fans at Empire Field, and Lulay was benched in the third quarter.

"Great memories," he recalled.

The Lions' record fell to 1-6. They would lose only once more the entire season, turning potential disaster into a championship trophy.

"I think being able to overcome that, which was a pretty low point in my professional career, was really important for me," said Lulay.

"Knowing that if that type of situation where the team's losing and you're getting taken off the field, if you can get through that, you can get through the ups and downs of playing the position in the league."

Quoted

"I believed I could play all along, just somebody needed to agree with me. I finally found a place that did." B.C. Lions quarterback Travis Lulay

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GAME PLAN IN FLUX

Alain Vigneault hopes to stick with a veteran-laden lineup en route to a third straight Presidents' Trophy, but injuries may force his hand

Canucks captain Henrik Sedin recorded 81 points in 82 games last season.
ELSA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

The NHL season has not begun yet, but Alain Vigneault's plans are already in danger of being tested, tweaked and, possibly, scrapped.

Heading into the lockout-shortened campaign, the Vancouver Canucks coach wants to keep his players fresh by monitoring their ice time closely. Ideally, he would like to roll four forward lines and six defencemen.

But the absences of injured centre Ryan Kesler (shoulder, wrist) and winger David Booth (groin) have created two holes on the club's second line that could dictate otherwise.

"We're going to have to do a good job, especially at the beginning, of spreading the ice time around and making sure that the minutes our players are giving us are quality minutes," Vigneault said.

Quoted

"We're a team that should be competing for the Stanley Cup. That's where we want to get to this year." Daniel Sedin

Under the extraordinary conditions of a 48-game schedule, last witnessed in 1994-95, it's impossible to predict how things will go, Vigneault said. But the club's research shows that a similar roster is needed in a 48-game schedule as in the regular 82-game version.

Accordingly, Vigneault plans to stick with what he knows — a veteran lineup — and make adjustments going forward as the Canucks attempt to win a third straight Presidents' Trophy as the top regular-season team and get back to the Stanley Cup finals after losing to Boston in 2010-11.

"I'm going to, obviously, start with things that have worked in the past," Vigneault said. "But I firmly believe that talent has no age. If anybody can step in and contribute to this team, they will be here."

Journeyman Andrew Ebbett and Jordan Schroeder, Vancouver's first-round draft choice in 2009, are vying to fill Kesler's spot. Second-year pro Zack Kassian, acquired from Buffalo in the controversial Cody Hodgson trade last February, appears to have the inside track on replacing Booth.

Vancouver's other three lines remain largely intact.

The most significant long-term change is in goal, with Cory Schneider ticketed to become the starter after displacing Roberto Luongo in last spring's playoffs. Luongo, who is notorious for slow starts to the season — usually in October — has looked sharp in workouts after honing his game with Quebec goaltending guru Francois Allaire during the lockout.

Luongo will provide goaltending insurance until his trade is finally completed.

With much of the attention on Luongo's future and the second line, Vancouver's major off-season signing — defenceman Jason Garrison — has started his Canuck tenure with little fanfare. But there's no doubt Garrison, a 28-year-old White Rock native who signed with his hometown club after playing his first three NHL seasons in Florida, will play a prominent role.

He will replace departed free agent Sami Salo alongside Alex Edler and see action on the power play.

"(Garrison) is a player that, really, I didn't have a read on, because we didn't see Florida very much," Vigneault said. "I had heard a tremendous amount of great things from people that knew him personally, people that had played with him.

"He had nothing but great reviews from our players as they were practising here prior to the start of the training camp. I can honestly say he's lived up to billing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Double trouble

Vigneault has twins' preservation in mind

Vancouver's success will rest largely in the scoring hands of Henrik and Daniel Sedin. The twins, who won the NHL scoring title in 2010 and 2011, respectively, saw their production decline in 2011-12. Henrik furnished 81 points while playing all 82 games, while Daniel was limited to 67 points in a season limited to 72 games because of a concussion and another injury.

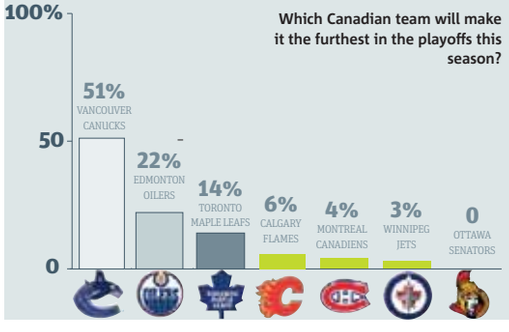
If Vigneault is able to stick to his plan, he will keep a tight lid on the Sedins' minutes while giving the third and fourth lines more playing time in wake of the second-line health issues. The twins usually play less than other teams' stars and, even in a compressed season with games meaning something from the start, Vigneault does not want to risk playing them too much.

"They're just the type of guys that want to do everything that they can for the team, and I've got to look at the big picture," Vigneault said.

Roberto Luongo, whose name surfaced in trade rumours during the off-season, has looked sharp in workouts after honing his game with Quebec goaltending guru Francois Allaire during the lockout. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

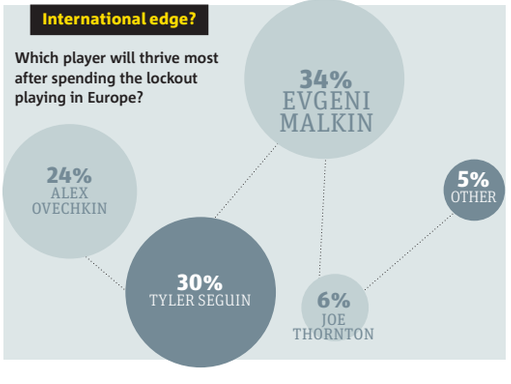
Metro readers' poll

Which Canadian team will make it the furthest in the playoffs this season?



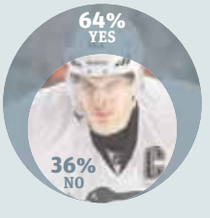
International edge?

Which player will thrive most after spending the lockout playing in Europe?



Head games

Will Sidney Crosby remain healthy for the full season?



Drop the puck

A look at the Canucks' hectic first week of action:

- **Saturday.** Ducks at Canucks, 7 p.m. (CBC).
- **Sunday.** Oilers at Canucks, 6 p.m. (SNET)
- **Wednesday.** Flames at Canucks. (TBA).
- **Friday.** Canucks at Ducks, 7 p.m. (TBA).

Alex Burrows celebrates after scoring against the Los Angeles Kings during the playoffs last season on April 11 at Rogers Arena. Burrows will again be playing alongside the Sedin twins on the Canucks' top line. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Different guys need to step up: Captain

First line of offence.
Top trio being counted on as usual, but Henrik Sedin says others are capable of producing secondary threats

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

Apparently, nine months apart won't do anything to disrupt the telepathic connection moulded these past few years between the Sedin twins, Henrik and Daniel, and Alex Burrows.

Since early 2009, when the trio was formed by head coach Alain Vigneault, it's been difficult to name many other line combinations in the Western Conference that have proven just as productive. They've combined for 321 regular-season goals in the last four seasons and 707 points.

The Canucks have scored 1,029 goals since 2008-09, and the Sedins and Burrows have been in on 69 per cent of the team's scoring. The stats alone illustrate the trio's importance to a Vancouver organization that is still searching for its first Stanley Cup.

But this is a different year. The 48-game regular season begins Saturday for the Canucks against the Anaheim Ducks.

The lockout is over. The Canucks, as a team, haven't played a game together since April 22, when they were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs.

Can the line that has helped propel the Canucks to back-to-back Presidents' Trophy titles recapture the same magic, even with such a long layoff?

"They've been skating together ever since the lockout started, so I'm not worried at all," Burrows said this week after practice. "Just the way they're practising right now, you can see that they haven't lost a beat.

"For me, it's pretty simple. Just give them the puck and go to the net. That's our chemistry right there."

The injuries to second-line centre Ryan Kesler — he had shoulder and wrist surgeries in the off-season and still isn't cleared to play — and winger David Booth have only compounded the Canucks' need for the Sedin line.

Vigneault has pinpointed a cast of others to lighten the burden — guys like Chris Higgins, Maxim Lapierre and Manny Malhotra, to name a few.

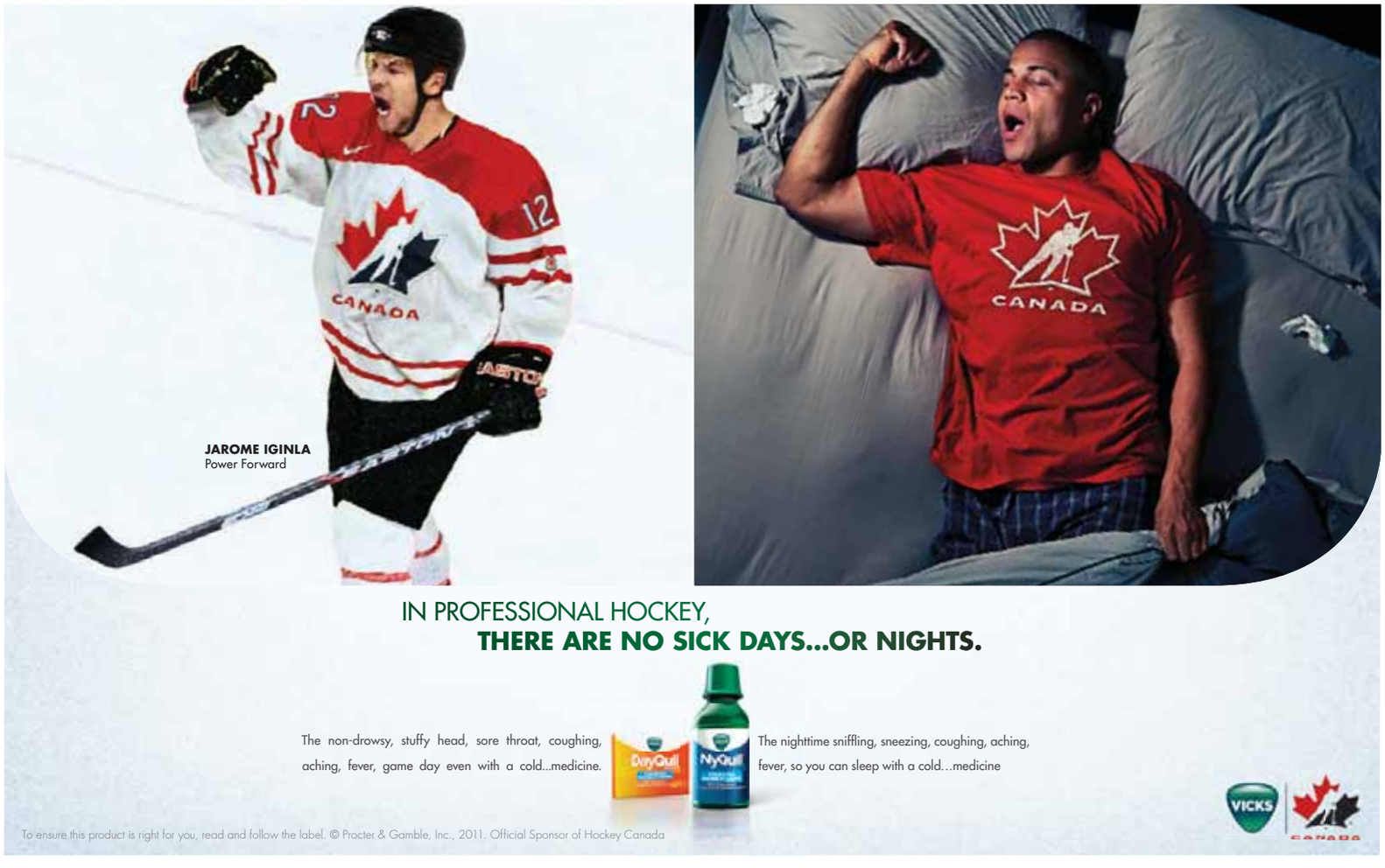
But the Sedins see the most ice time and get top power-play minutes as well.

"We've always been a defensive-minded team that's going to take care of our own end first. That can't change," said team captain Henrik Sedin, who has 369 points since 2008-09. "Saying that, we're going to need some other guys stepping up and scoring goals for us. I think we have a few guys who can do that."

Quoted

"For me, it's pretty simple. Just give them the puck and go to the net."

Alex Burrows on how best to succeed when playing on the same line with the Sedins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NyQuil
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VICKS
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Northwest preview

The Vancouver Canucks, the top regular-season club the past two seasons, again rate as the team to beat in the Western Conference. While other squads try to introduce significant changes in a brief training camp, Vancouver has fewer on-ice worries:

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgary Flames

Last season: 37-29-16, 90 points, ninth in West.

Captain Jarome Iginla's future will be the biggest question surrounding the Flames. He is entering the final year of his contract, and the next one will likely be the last of his career. GM Jay Feaster must decide whether it's in the franchise's best interests to re-sign Iginla, 35, or trade him and use the proceeds to further a rebuilding process that is far from over.

Prediction: 14th in West.

Colorado Avalanche

Last season: 41-35-61, 88 points, 11th in West.

The Avalanche will continue a youth movement led by 20-year-old captain Gabriel Landeskog, the 2012 NHL rookie of the year. Like the Oilers, the Avalanche have a chance to reap big gains this season, but Colorado's core did not have the luxury of playing together during the labour dispute. It remains to be seen if the Avs have enough depth to make a strong run down the stretch.

Prediction: 13th in West.

Edmonton Oilers

Last season: 32-40-10,74 points, 14th in West.

The youth-laden Oilers stand to make the biggest improvement thanks to an unusual situation during the lockout.

A key part of their offensive core — Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Taylor Hall, Jordan Eberle and rookie defenceman Justin Schultz — played together with the AHL's Oklahoma City Barons, a team that uses the same system as the Oilers in NHL-sized rinks.

Prediction: Eighth in West.

Minnesota Wild

Last season: 35-36-11, 81 points, 12th in West.

Many observers expect the Wild to leap up the standings after luring winger Zach Parise from New Jersey and defenceman Ryan Suter out of Nashville.

The Wild signed Parise and Suter to 13-year, $98-million US contracts, testing the theory that money can buy a championship team. Coach Mike Yeo is introducing a culture change. Such efforts can take a full season, if not longer.

Prediction: 12th in West.

Vancouver Canucks

Last season: 51-22-9, 111 points,1st seed in West.

The Canucks have become known for slow starts, but also possess the advantages of a veteran lineup, familiar playing system and proven coach in a shortened season. The most significant challenge is to find an adequate replacement for injured centre Ryan Kesler on the second line. The anticipated Roberto Luongo trade may help resolve that issue.

Prediction: 1st in West.

QUESTIONS SURROUND CUP CONTENDER

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Edward Fraser
vancouver@metronews.ca

For a team The Hockey News thinks — once again — is the frontrunner to lift Lord Stanley's mug this spring, the Canucks enter the year with a lot of question marks.

First and foremost is the goaltending situation, which is bizarre for a team sporting two No. 1s.

Where oh where will "Lou" land? And when? With every game in this shortened season being more significant, Canucks brass can't afford Roberto Luongo's presence to become a distraction. Nor, strangely, can they afford him to outshine Cory Schneider and create a controversy. If Luongo's still a Canuck when the calendar flips to February, it'd be a shock. And a mistake. Once that's sorted, there's no concern in the crease. Though never a full-time NHL starter, Schneider has proven himself capable. His calm, almost effortless style will serve him well as he'll see a lot of action over the 48 games.

Up front, the short-term future of Ryan Kesler remains in flux as he recovers from two off-season surgeries (shoulder; wrist). When he finally returns, how long will it take him to rediscover the physical game that made him a top two-way threat? Will he ever? His dominance helps take heat off the top line. It's no coincidence the Sedins finished first (Daniel) and fourth (Henrik) in scoring the year Kesler scored 41 goals (2010-11). Also sidelined to start the year is Kesler's buddy from their minor hockey days, David Booth, who's out four to six weeks with a groin strain.

The Canucks made no significant additions to the forward corps, but coming off a campaign in which they scored the fifth-most goals in the NHL, there was no need. One new face who could have an impact is 2009 first-rounder Jordan Schroeder. Though he'd bring a different presence to the second line, where he's currently auditioning, the skilled five-foot-eight, 175-pounder would help offset the loss of offence early on if he can finally find the confidence and consistency that's eluded him.

Producing goals at regular strength won't be an issue when everyone is healthy, but can the Canucks turn around their power-play woes? Vancouver was simply dreadful in 2012 after starting the season as the league's best unit. The team's one big-name free-agent signing, defenceman Jason Garrison, who scored 16 goals on the man advantage in 2011-12, figures to help. He, along with Dan Hamhuis, Alex Edler and Kevin Bieksa, make up a top-four that's the envy of much of the league. The only question is health: Hamhuis has already missed practice with a groin issue.

Members of the Canucks watch from the bench during training camp at Rogers Arena on Tuesday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Three Canucks to watch

Cam Barker

Barker's been a bust since going third overall in 2004, bouncing between four NHL teams. Were expectations too high? They're low now and he'll fit in well on the third pairing and could move up to fill in if there's an injury.

1

Zack Kassian

The move bringing him over was widely panned. The pressure will be on him to produce far more than the four goals he managed in 2012-13. Upside? Bertuzzi-style power forward. Down side? Fourth-line plug. Could go either way.

2

Andrew Ebbett

He'll battle for an opportunity to show off an offensive side of his game. If he can make his mark, and continue his play from the AHL (21 points in 29 games), he'll bump some underachievers down the depth chart.

3

Ready to return

Canadian hockey fans loyal to NHL, survey finds

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman's assessment of the loyalty of hockey fans appears to be borne out by a new poll, at least for the hardcore north of the 49th parallel.

The Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey suggests a strong majority of Canadian hockey followers will keep watching when NHL games return this weekend after a three-month lockout by team owners.

The poll found that two out of three respondents — 66 per cent — say they'll watch about the same amount of hockey as in the past, while just under one in four — 23 per cent — say they'll watch less.

"I think the poll supports the conventional wisdom of the fans, that the lockout has hurt the game," said pollster Allan Gregg, chairman of Harris-Decima.

"Who it's going to really, really hurt is the occasional fan, and that's not an insignificant chunk of the total population."

The NHL's third lockout in 20 years prompted a lot of loud complaints that the game's best customers were being taken for granted and led to threats of fan boycotts.

Yet among the most avid NHL followers, the survey found that 69 per cent said they'll watch about the same amount of hockey.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Television

Grapes to pull overtime on HNIC

The 60th season of Hockey Night in Canada kicks off this weekend with twice as much Grapes and plans for a cross-country tour.

The long-delayed return of the Saturday night staple will feature an expanded in-studio panel of analysts, plans to visit each of the seven Canadian NHL cities, and an extra dose of Don Cherry commentary that will air during the later game out of the West.

The tweaks are all meant to make Hockey Night in Canada a more truly national broadcast, said host Ron MacLean.

"We met with the seven Canadian NHL team presidents last year and they thought, 'Is there more you can do? We just feel like we don't get enough of Hockey Night in Canada because it all happens out of the CBC building in Toronto.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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4 pm PT Toronto @ Montreal
7 pm PT Anaheim @ Vancouver

SATURDAY, JAN. 26
4 pm PT Toronto @ New York Rangers
7 pm PT Edmonton @ Calgary

SATURDAY, FEB. 2
11 am PT Buffalo @ Montreal
4 pm PT Boston @ Toronto
7 pm PT Chicago @ Calgary

SUNDAY, FEB. 3
11 am PT Ottawa @ Montreal

SATURDAY, FEB. 9
SCOTIABANK HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA
9 am PT *Celebrating the Game*
11 am PT Edmonton @ Detroit
11 am PT Winnipeg @ Ottawa
2 pm PT *Celebrating the Game* (Part2)
4 pm PT Toronto @ Montreal
7 pm PT Calgary @ Vancouver

FRIDAY, FEB. 15
4 pm PT Pittsburgh @ Winnipeg

SATURDAY, FEB. 16
4 pm PT Ottawa @ Toronto
4 pm PT Philadelphia @ Montreal
7 pm PT Colorado @ Edmonton

SATURDAY, FEB. 23
4 pm PT Toronto @ Ottawa
4 pm PT New York Rangers @ Montreal
7 pm PT Minnesota @ Calgary

SATURDAY, MAR. 2
Noon PT Washington @ Winnipeg
4 pm PT Pittsburgh @ Montreal
7 pm PT Los Angeles @ Vancouver

SATURDAY, MAR. 9
4 pm PT Pittsburgh @ Toronto
4 pm PT Montreal @ Tampa Bay
7 pm PT Calgary @ Los Angeles

SATURDAY, MAR. 16
4 pm PT Winnipeg @ Toronto
4 pm PT Montreal @ New Jersey
7 pm PT Detroit @ Vancouver

FRIDAY, MAR. 22
4 pm PT Washington @ Winnipeg

SATURDAY, MAR. 23
4 pm PT Boston @ Toronto
4 pm PT Buffalo @ Montreal
7 pm PT St. Louis @ Edmonton

SATURDAY, MAR. 30
4 pm PT Toronto @ Ottawa
4 pm PT New York Rangers @ Montreal
7 pm PT Vancouver @ Edmonton

SATURDAY, APR. 6
Noon PT Philadelphia @ Winnipeg
4 pm PT Toronto @ New Jersey
4 pm PT Boston @ Montreal
7 pm PT Calgary @ Vancouver

THURSDAY, APR. 11
4 pm PT Montreal @ Buffalo

SATURDAY, APR. 13
4 pm PT Montreal @ Toronto
7 pm PT Calgary @ Edmonton

SATURDAY, APR. 20
4 pm PT Toronto @ Ottawa
4 pm PT Washington @ Montreal
7 pm PT Detroit @ Vancouver

SATURDAY, APR. 27
4 pm PT Montreal @ Toronto
4 pm PT Philadelphia @ Ottawa
7 pm PT Vancouver @ Edmonton

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CBC

The pressure will be on John Tortorella to get the most from his Rangers, who added all-star forward Rick Nash to their attack after finishing first in the Eastern Conference last season. JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Less than a cup won't be enough

Only one winner.
Handful of teams have gone all-in looking for chance at Stanley Cup

The New York Rangers made a big push in trading for Rick Nash to improve their chances of winning a championship for the first time since 1994.

"It's the right time for him to be here with us," Rangers coach John Tortorella said.

On the opposite side of the continent, the Vancouver Canucks can't wait to resume the franchise's quest for its first cup when the lockout-delayed season starts Saturday night at home against Anaheim.

The Chicago Blackhawks and Pittsburgh Penguins are also feeling a sense of urgency to win it all again.

And advancing one round in the playoffs isn't enough anymore for the Nashville Predators, who raised the stakes by matching a 14-year, $110-million contract to keep star defenceman Shea Weber.

Even though the Predators don't have the best defensive pair in the league anymore, with Ryan Suter joining fellow free agent Zach Parise in Minnesota, Nashville expects to try for more than just a third straight trip to the Western Conference semifinals.

"Without a doubt, the ultimate goal is the Stanley Cup," said Weber, who was wooed by the Philadelphia Flyers with a long and lucrative offer sheet as a restricted free agent last summer.

"And to do that, you have to make the post-season. Anything can happen, as we all witnessed with Los Angeles last year."

The Kings, seeded eighth, started by knocking off the top-seeded Canucks in the West and finished with a 6-1 rout of the New Jersey Devils in Game 6 of the final.

That's why Detroit Red Wings general manager Ken Holland, who is hoping to help the franchise extend its post-season streak, said it's not realistic for there to be a lot of pressure on any one team to win it all.

"The cup contenders will be the 16 teams that make the playoffs," Holland said while watching his team prepare on the ice earlier this week for a 48-game regular season.

"The eighth seed won the Stanley Cup against the sixth from the East. The days in the 1990s and early 2000s when the top teams had easier runs in the early rounds are over."

It won't be pretty, though, in some cities if the results are anything short of a championship.

The Rangers made a long run in the post-season, six games into the Eastern Conference final against New Jersey.

The Rangers also played in the Eastern Conference final in 1997. Those two post-seasons are the team's longest since beating the Canucks in Game 7 of the 1994 Stanley Cup final. That was the year before the last lockout-shortened season.

New York led the East with 109 points last season with Marian Gaborik and Brad Richards leading up front and goaltender Henrik Lundqvist having the best year of his career. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"It's wide open, and that's the beauty of the league."

Detroit Red Wings general manager Ken Holland

Expected to be exceptional

Shortened training camps are nearing an end for the NHL's 30 teams as they prepare for the truncated regular season. The puck drops on Saturday. Here is a look at six NHLers to watch this season:

THE CANADIAN PRESS

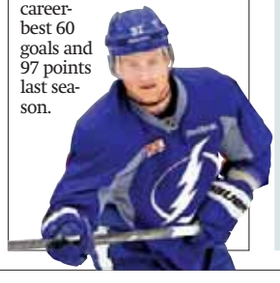
Photos by The Canadian Press/The Associated Press/Getty Images

Sidney Crosby

Sid's not a kid anymore. The Penguins centre is 25 now and hoping to stay healthy this year. Crosby missed most of the last two seasons due to post-concussion syndrome. He posted impressive numbers in limited action last season (37 points in just 22 games) and says he's no longer dealing with concussion-like symptoms.

Steven Stamkos

Stamkos has been a rock for Tampa Bay since the Lightning selected him with the first overall pick of the 2008 draft. He had 46 points as a rookie before blossoming as a sophomore with 51 goals and 95 points. Stamkos has kept up the pace with 91 points in 2010-11 and a career-best 60 goals and 97 points last season.



Cory Schneider

The goaltending drama is an evolving soap opera in Vancouver and it's showing no signs of slowing down. Schneider took over the starting spot from Roberto Luongo and is a good bet to see the bulk of the playing time this season. Schneider posted a 20-8-1 record last season with a 1.96 goals-against average. He'll be eager to prove he deserves his status as the team's go-to guy in net.

Rick Nash

The Broadway spotlight will be shining on the five-time all-star forward, who finally gets a crack at playing for a contender after years in Columbus. Nash was dealt to the Rangers last summer and could be the piece to get them over the hump.

Zach Parise

Minnesota landed top free agents Parise and Ryan Suter in the off-season, signing them to whopping $98-million US, 13-year deals. Season-ticket sales went up along with expectations. The Wild have missed the playoffs for four straight seasons. Parise gives the team a consistent offensive weapon and he thrives when the pressure is on.

Henrik Zetterberg

Talk about big shoes to fill. Zetterberg will wear the "C" for Detroit with previous captain Nicklas Lidstrom retired. Zetterberg is coming off a team-leading 69-point campaign. Zetterberg's main goal is leading the Red Wings to the playoffs for the 22nd straight season.

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See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Certain goals may seem to be out of your reach but they are not. The planets are urging you not just to aim high but to aim higher than ever before. All things are possible if you want them enough.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You seem reluctant to put your point of view across. Why is that? If you have something of value to say, you have not just a right but a responsibility to speak up. So speak up.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
It may appear as if someone you work or do business with has been cheating you but can you be sure? The planets warn you cannot trust your senses today, so err on the side of caution and don't make accusations.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You won't have any trouble getting others to back your ideas today but you may be in trouble later on if they don't work out the way you expected. For that reason alone make it clear there are no guarantees.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Some kind of habit is holding you back and it's time you got past it. Simply stopping won't do it — you've tried that before. The trick is to replace a bad habit by a good habit.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Avoid poking fun at people in positions of power, no matter how tempting it may be. Laughter is only the best medicine if it is the kind that everyone can share in. Anything else could be dangerous today.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't take what you are told at face value. Check the facts for yourself. What others say may sound convincing but more likely it's just self-serving. Do your homework and avoid making costly mistakes.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may be resentful that changes of one sort or another have been forced on you but there is no point making a fuss. The best you can do is to go with the flow and not draw attention to yourself.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Resist the temptation to talk up the facts as others may see that as a form of deception. It may be easy enough to do but in the long-term you will regret it. Protect your reputation for honesty at all costs.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The planets warn that your powers of intuition are on the blink and not to be trusted, at least for the next 24 hours. Stick to what you know to be true and in other matters be exceptionally cautious.

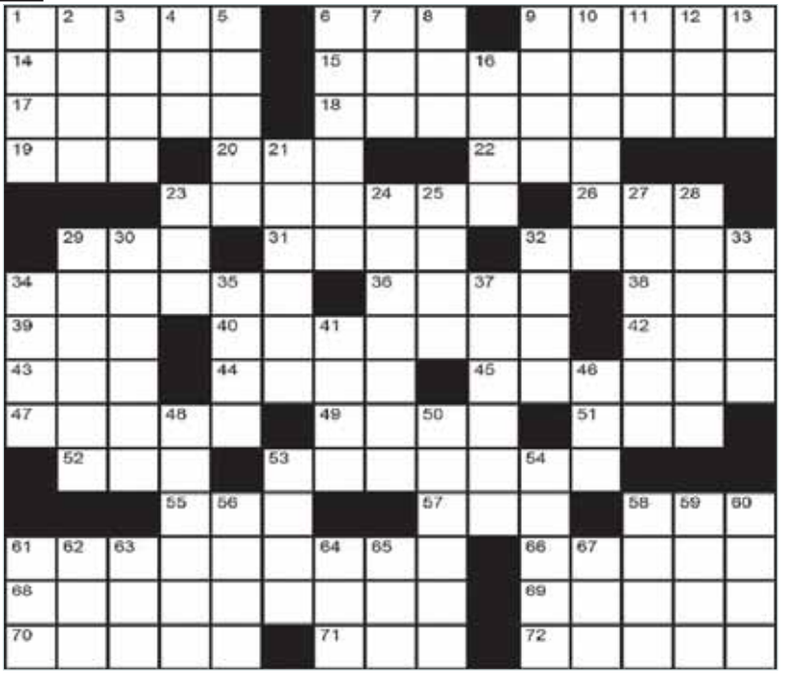
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Try not to let your fears get out of hand over the next 24 hours. Take your mind off your worries by focusing on all the things you have to be thankful for. That should keep you busy for a while.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Those who think highly of you will help you out in any way they can today, but first you must ask. The Sun's link to communications planet Mercury means your wish is their command. So wish away.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

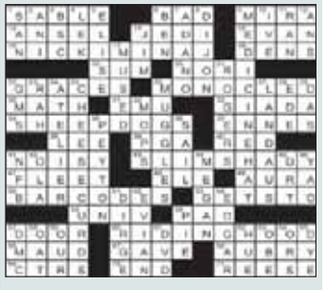
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Toronto __ Centre
6. Task
9. "__ la vista, baby." - The Terminator
14. CBC's "Republic of __"
15. BC's Revelstoke, for one: 2 wds.
17. Taylor Swift's "_ __ You Were Trouble"
18. On the costume of Bruce Wayne's alter ego: 2 wds.
19. 'Legal' suffix
20. Extinct bird
22. "The Simpsons" storekeeper
23. Reporter on "etalk", Traci __
26. Got [abbr.]
29. Jolt
31. Herring-like fish
32. Open court hearings
34. Formula
36. Endorse
38. Mr. Reed
39. __-locka, Florida
40. Ducks city
42. 'Serpent' suffix
43. Psychedelic†drug
44. Not is
45. __, Nova Scotia
47. Pretend
49. Destiny's Child hit: "Say My __"
51. Bronze Roman money
52. 'Part' add-on (Collaborator)
53. "Deuce __: Male Gigolo"
55. Green tropical fruit ...partially eaten here
57. Irish actor Stephen
58. Li'l accounting review
61. Green-haired Canadian icon: 3 wds.
66. Jennifer or Meg
68. The Glass __ (Tennessee Williams play)
69. US Supreme Court Justice Ms. Kagan
70. Fraternity letter
71. Wine aperitif
72. Singer/songwriter Sarah

Down
1. Ms. Falco
2. Says it's hunky-dory
3. Actress Ms. Daly
4. Grand Opry link
5. "Brand __ __" by Alicia Keys
6. German composer, in brief: _._. __ (b.1685 - d.1750)
7. Quebec-made cheese
8. Smidgen
9. Rope fiber
10. Bruce Springsteen album: 'Greetings from __ Park N.J.'
11. Pine-__
12. Green Day drummer, __ Cool
13. 24-hr. banker
16. Back
21. Mary-Kate and Ashley
23. Hosp. picture
24. Twitter's #
25. Garfield's pal
27. Chanteuse Ms. Dion
28. Pilotless aircrafts
29. Carly Rae __
30. Evangeline: A Tale of __ (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem)
32. Les Miz song: "__ Own": 2 wds.
33. Chop __
34. Massage for therapy
35. Rapper T-__
37. Ms. Bundchen
41. Years, in old Rome
46. Stealing bird
48. Alexander __ Bell
50. Sharpie product
53. Music systems company
54. Hall & __
56. "Luka" singer Suzanne
58. Helm position
59. Forearm bone
60. Ms. Cannon
61. First aid team [acronym]
62. Agnus __ (Mass prayer)
63. 1987 to 1994 'Star Trek' series, to fans
64. Mork's planet
65. Nero's 102
67. __-advised

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

9								1
	4	6				9	3	
			5	1	9			
		2	9	4	3	1		
7	3						2	9
		9	2	8	7	3		
			7	2	4			
	8	7				5	4	
6								2

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	9	1	8	6	2	5	7	3
6	2	5	3	4	7	8	1	9
8	7	3	9	5	1	6	2	4
3	1	9	4	7	5	2	8	6
5	6	7	2	8	3	4	9	1
2	4	8	6	1	9	7	3	5
7	3	6	5	9	8	1	4	2
1	5	2	7	3	4	9	6	8
9	8	4	1	2	6	3	5	7

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Saturday 7°/3° Partly cloudy
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Bellingham Airfares

Las Vegas
from $195*

Honolulu	from $337*
Maui	from $408*

Airfares

Los Cabos
from $450

San Francisco	from $424
San Diego	from $479
Miami	from $539
New Orleans	from $552
Huatulco	from $575
Toronto	from $586
Cancun	from $599
Puerto Vallarta	from $605
Punta Cana	from $689
Costa Rica	from $799
Panama City	from $861
Paris	from $964
Bangkok	from $1160
Tokyo	from $1200
Sydney	from $1317

Hawaii

Honolulu
Air + 7 Nights
from $939
INCLUDES Waikiki accom.
ADD Paradise Cove Luau from $96.

Kona Air + 7 Nights from $1179
INCLUDES accom in an oceanfront resort near Kona Beach.

Maui & Oahu Valentine's Day Island Hopper, Air + 8 Nights from $1679
INCLUDES all airfare, 4 nights Maui accom and 4 nights Waikiki accom.

Hawaii
Air + 3 Nights + 13-Night Cruise from $1799
INCLUDES airfare, central Waikiki accom near the beach and cruise sailing Honolulu to Vancouver visiting Kauai, Maui, The Big Island and Victoria.

Vacations

Thailand Songkran
Air + 8 Nights
from $1594
INCLUDES Phuket accom at Karon Beach during Thai New Year. BONUS daily breakfast included.
UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $13 per night.
ADD elephant trek from $59.

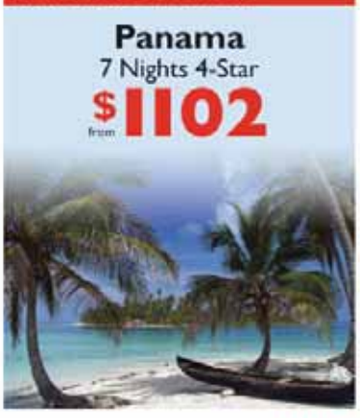
Iceland Air + 7 Nights from $1034
INCLUDES Reykjavik city centre accom.
BONUS daily breakfast included. ADD Blue Lagoon admission from $40.

Dubai Shopping Festival
Air + 6 Nights from $1839
INCLUDES Mall of Emirates area accom and breakfast daily during the 18th annual Dubai Shopping Festival.

Rio de Janeiro Air + 7 Nights from $1949
INCLUDES Copacabana Beach accom.
UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $28 per night.
ADD Sugarloaf tour from $98.

New Zealand
Air + 12-Day RV from $2094
INCLUDES roundtrip Auckland airfare and 12-day RV rental with unlimited mileage, crockery and cutlery included.

All-inclusive Vacations



Panama
7 Nights 4-Star
from $1102

Los Cabos 7 Nights 4-Star from $1071

Puerto Vallarta
7 Nights 4-Star from $1095

Cancun 7 Nights 4-Star from $1185

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star from $1235

USA

Palm Springs
Air + 3 Nights 5-Star
from $487
INCLUDES downtown Palm Springs accom near attractions.

San Francisco Air + 3 Nights from $534
INCLUDES accom near City Hall. ADD trolley hop and Bay cruise from $44.

New Orleans Air + 4 Nights from $799
INCLUDES French Quarter accom. ADD ghosts and spirits walk from $33.

Fort Lauderdale
Air + 15 Nights from $1194
INCLUDES beachfront accom. ADD 15-day car rental with unlimited mileage from $16 per day.

Canada

Harrison Hot Springs
Valentine's Day, 2 Nights from $124pp
INCLUDES accom near Harrison Lake.

Tofino Storm Watching, 2 Nights from $214pp
INCLUDES accom on Cox Bay Beach.

Big White Spring Break
4 Nights from $364pp
INCLUDES Village accom. ADD 3-day lift ticket to ski Big White from $72 per day.

Toronto Air + 3 Nights 4-Star from $724
INCLUDES harbour front accom. UPGRADE to 5-star accom from $19 per night. ADD CN Tower admission from $30.

Disneyland Resort Vacations

***Disneyland* Resort Good Neighbor Hotel**
Air + 3 Nights
from $289◊
INCLUDES accom near theme parks.
Price per person based on family of 4.
ADD 3-Day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Tickets from $211/adult & $197/child (3-9 yrs).

***Disney's Paradise Pier* Hotel**
Air + 4 Nights from $699◊◊
INCLUDES recently renovated rooms and seashore touches that will carry you on a wave of relaxation, all the way up to the whimsical waterslide and scenic rooftop pool. Price per person based on family of 4.
BOOK this package based on double occupancy from $1010 per person.

***Disney's Grand Californian* Hotel & Spa**
Air + 4 Nights from $878◊◊
INCLUDES premium accommodations and rich dining experiences in American Craftsman style, with a private entrance to Disney California Adventure Park (valid Theme Park Ticket required). Price per person based on family of 4. BOOK this package based on double occupancy from $1374 per person.

FREE* Park Hopper upgrade when you purchase a minimum 3-day Disneyland Resort ticket.

Disneyland IN CALIFORNIA

Las Vegas

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star +
Cirque du Soleil™ Tickets◊
from $388
INCLUDES airfare, airport transfers and 4-star accom on the Strip. BONUS choice of select Cirque du Soleil™ or other premium show tickets included◊. UPGRADE to 5-star accom and show tickets from $15 per night.

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Conditions apply. Ex: Vancouver. *Ex: Bellingham. All advertised prices include taxes & fees. Air only prices are per person for return travel unless otherwise stated. Package, cruise, tour, rail & hotel prices are per person, based on double occupancy for total length of stay unless otherwise stated. All-inclusive vacations include air. §§Per person. Prices are for select departure dates and are accurate and subject to availability at advertising deadline, errors and omissions excepted, and subject to change. Taxes & fees include transportation related fees, CBT/MBT and fuel supplements and are approximate and subject to change. †Price per person based on quad occupancy (2 adults & 2 children ages 2-17). ‡‡Price is per person based on quad occupancy (2 adults, 1 youth age 10-18, 1 child age 3-9). ◊Offer is valid for all rooms and suites at Aria, Bellagio, Vdara, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, THEhotel at Mandalay Bay, The Mirage, Monte Carlo and New York-New York. Offer is not valid on existing reservations and cannot be combined with any other offer, promotion or discount. Limit 2 tickets per reservation. Both tickets must be used for the same show and show time. Single occupancy rooms will receive only one ticket. Some restrictions may apply. Multiple rooms on a single reservation are not guaranteed adjoining seats or the same shows/showtimes for all rooms. Tickets have no cash value and are non-transferable. Show tickets can only be redeemed by the primary guest as it appears on the package reservation. Guest must check into the hotel prior to redeeming show tickets. Offer is subject to availability, does not apply to group reservations of 5 or more rooms and may be cancelled or modified without notice at any time by the supplier. Consecutive reservations will be excluded from receiving show tickets. Participants must be 21 or over 21 years of age. ^Not available at the box office. Free Park Hopper upgrade with the purchase of a non-discounted 3-Day Disneyland Resort ticket. Valid for use beginning January 2, 2013. Ticket expires 12 days after the first day of use or on March 31, 2013, whichever occurs first. Each day of use constitutes one full day of use. Check for offers on other tickets. Limit eight (8) tickets per person, per day and tickets may not be sold or transferred for commercial use. Not valid with any other ticket discount or promotion. Subject to capacity, restrictions and change without notice. ‡We will beat any written quoted airfare by $1 and give you a $20 voucher for future travel. "Fly Free" offer applies only where all "Lowest Airfare Guarantee" criteria are met but Flight Centre does not beat quoted fares. Additional important conditions apply. For full terms and conditions visit www.flightcentre.ca/lowestairfareguarantee-flyfree. BC REG: 8H032790